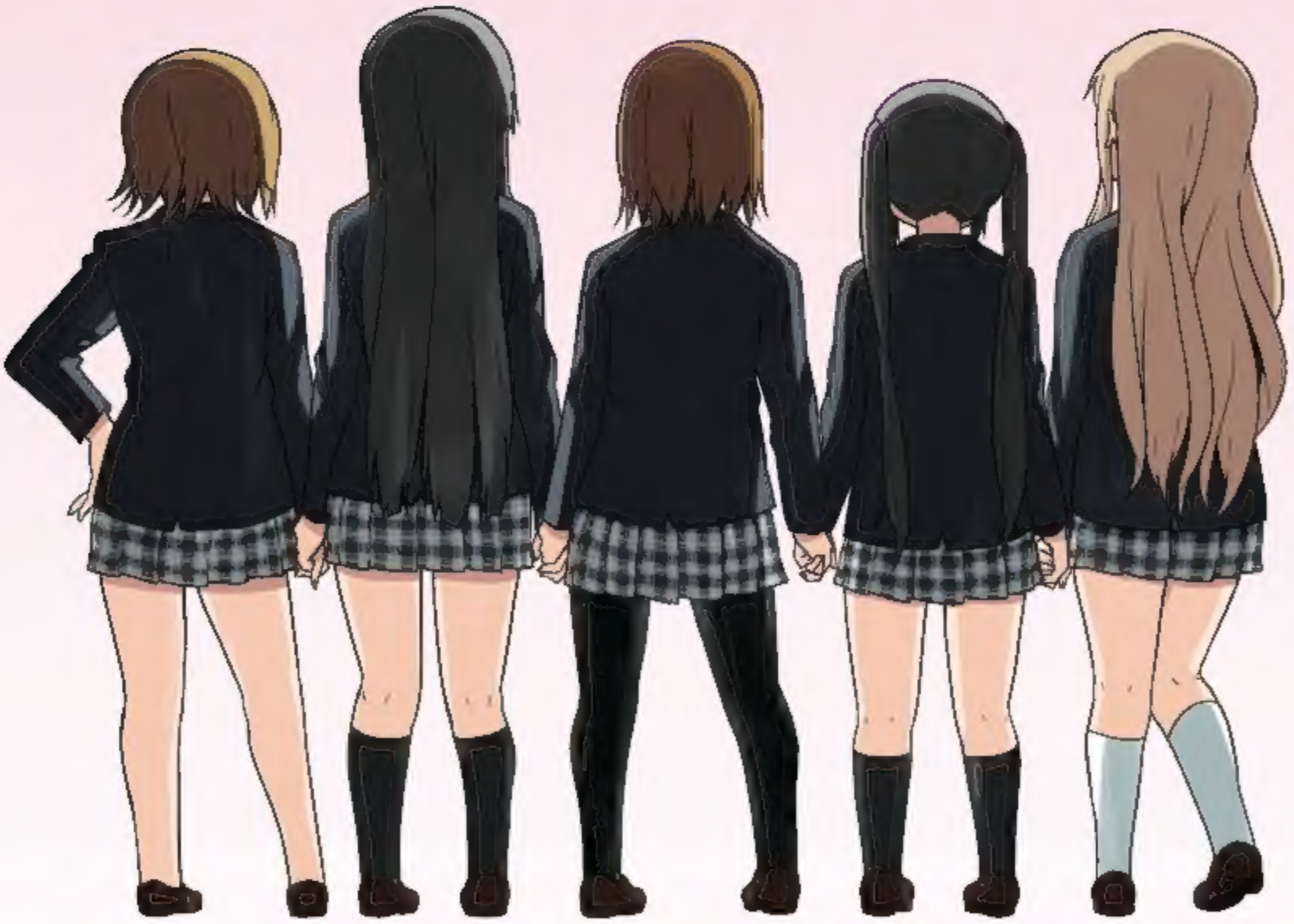
PRESENTED BY

kakifly

K-ON!

4

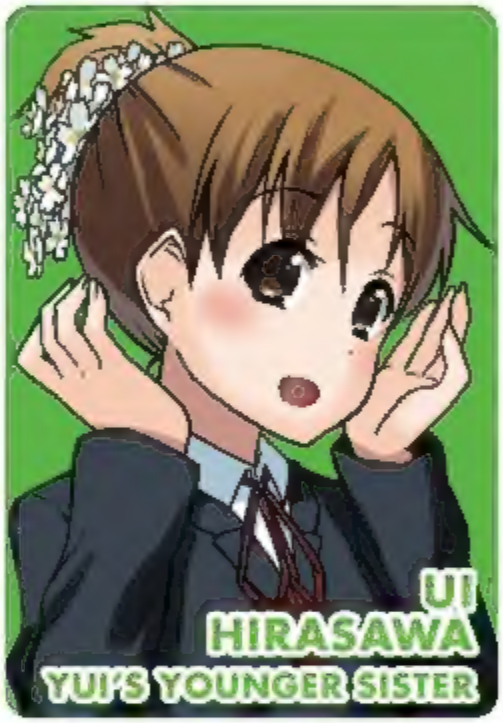
K-ON! 4



PRESENTED BY

kakifly

C H A R A C T E R S



K-ON! CHARACTER INTRO kakifly

HRMM...

NOT MUCH TIME LEFT BEFORE SUMMER BREAK'S OVER. SO HOW SHOULD WE SPEND IT...? HMM...

MAN...

YEAH, THERE WAS A GIRL LIKE THAT IN OUR FIRST YEAR.

COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE ARE SOME GIRLS WHO, LIKE, TOTALLY CHANGE THEIR LOOK OVER SUMMER BREAK, HUH?

NOTH-ING BUT FOOD ...?

WHEN I THINK SUMMER BREAK, I THINK WATERMELON, ICE CREAM, SNOW CONES...

SINCE IT'S "THE SUMMER OF OUR LAST YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL," HOW ABOUT STUDYING FOR A CHANGE!

TODAY WE'RE ALL HANGING OUT AT MIO-CHAN'S.

WHAT!? BUT YOU'RE ALREADY SENIORS... WHY NOW?

ALL RIGHT— THAT'S WHAT WE'RE DOIN'!! THE SUMMER OF OUR LAST YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL IS GONNA BE OUR SUMMER OF CHANGE!!

TA-DAA

THERE!! GOT IT!! HEY GUYS, LOOK! I'M UI NOW!!

OKAY, LET'S START STRIPPIN' DOWN, THEN.

WHAT FOR!?

HEY UI-CHAN... I HAD A QUESTION ABOUT THIS PART HERE. COULDJA EXPLAIN IT TO ME?

WOW, YOU LOOK SO MUCH LIKE UI, YOU GUYS COULD BE TWINS ...!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING SUCH GOOD FRIENDS TO MY BIG SISTER.

YEAH, WE KNEW THAT.

ACTU-ALLY... IT'S ME!!

TEE HEE!

PSSHT

MATH, LEVEL B

MATH, LEVEL B

NOT AGAIN!

PRESENT-ING... AZUSA!!

WHA —!?

COME ON... I'M REALLY TRYING TO STUDY HERE. STOP BOTHERING ME.

OHH... NOW WOOK HOW PWETTY YOUR HAIR IS, MIO-CHAN...

...

THAT'S NOT HOW AZU-MEOW SAYS THINGS.

HUH?

...THAT'S NOT HOW WE SAY IT.

URRRH... COME ON...! EVERYONE JUST STOP BUGGING ME!

YAAAAY! IT'S AZU-MEOW...!!

JERKS!! I'M NOT DOING THIS ANY-MORE!!

WAH HA HA HA HA!

...PUH-LEEEZE STOP BUGGING ME, YUUUI-SENPAAA! ...

もじ FIDGET

...PUH ...

もじ FIDGET

HEY, LOOK! IF AZUSA-CHAN LETS HER HAIR DOWN, SHE TURNS INTO MIO-CHAN!

HWEH?

...THIS ISN'T REALLY CHANG-ING OUR IMAGES. IT'S MORE LIKE AN IMPER-SON-ATION CON-TEST.

MIO, I'M TALKIN' TO YOU...!

HEY MIO! MIIIOOO!!

イラ IRK

イラ IRK

EH? UM... OKAY...

C'MON, DO A MIO FOR US.

WHOA... THAT WAS A PERFECT MIO-CHAN.

AHH!! I'M SO SORRY! I JUST GOT CARRIED AWAY...

THAT WAS... A GOOD... PUNCH...

WELL, AIN'T THAT JUST PEACHY...

I'VE NEVER FELT LIKE THIS BEFORE!

...BUT WOW, I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER NOW.

ゴン THWACK

RITSU, SHUT UP!!

AH-WEGH!

?

SHNK スチャ

HERE GOES.

HEY RIT-CHAN, CAN I TRY ON YOUR HEADBAND?

HUH? YEAH, SURE, I GUESS...

UM...UM... H-HEY YOU!! Y-YOU CAN'T DO THAT..!!

?

OH, I SEE... SHE'S PLAYING ME IN THE HOPES OF GETTING MIO TO HIT HER...

HYEEK!?

JUMP ビクッ

HEY—!! MIO—!!

HOW COME EVERY-ONE'S SO MEAN TO ME—!?

MUGI-CHAN, WHEN YOU DO IT, IT'S JUST CUTE.

REALLY ...?

IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE RITSU? I'M SORRY, BUT LISTEN, YOU'VE GOTTA BE A LOT MORE ANNOYING THAN THAT.

PFFF!

RIT-CHAN, I'VE BEEN WANTING TO PLAY WITH YOUR HAIR FOR THE LONGEST TIME!

WE ARE GONNA DO YOU, AND THAT'S THAT!

HUH?

HUH?

HUH? NO THANKS. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN BEING "CUTE" OR ANYTHING...

WE'RE GONNA MAKE YOU LOOK SOOOO CUTE! ♡

OKAY, LAST BUT NOT LEAST... IT'S YOUR TURN, RIT-CHAN!

WOW!! YOU LOOK JUST LIKE A MODEL!!

THEN WE'LL CURL IT UNDER SO IT FRAMES YOUR FACE!

THAT LOOKS REALLY GOOD ON YOU, RIT-CHAN!!

NEXT WE'LL USE SOME HAIR WAX TO GIVE YOU A CASUAL LOOK!

SO CUTE—!

THE FIRST THING WE'LL TRY IS PARTING IT IN THE CENTER!

...MIO, I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT MESSING AROUND WITH YOU SO MUCH ALL THE TIME, OKAY?

WHAT BROUGHT THIS ON, ALL OF A SUDDEN...?

PAT

I DON'T WANT A HAIRSTYLE!! I JUST WANNA LEAVE IT BE!!

BUT IT WAS SO CUTE... WHAT A WASTE.

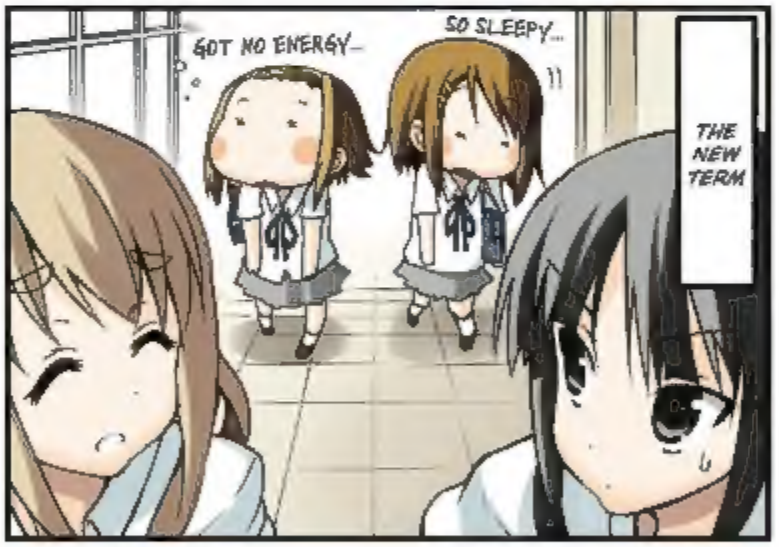
ENOUGH!! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE !!

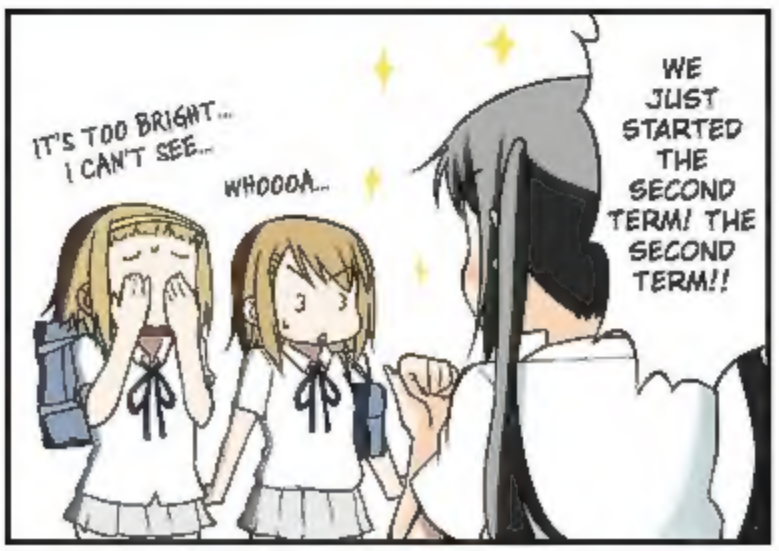
TUG

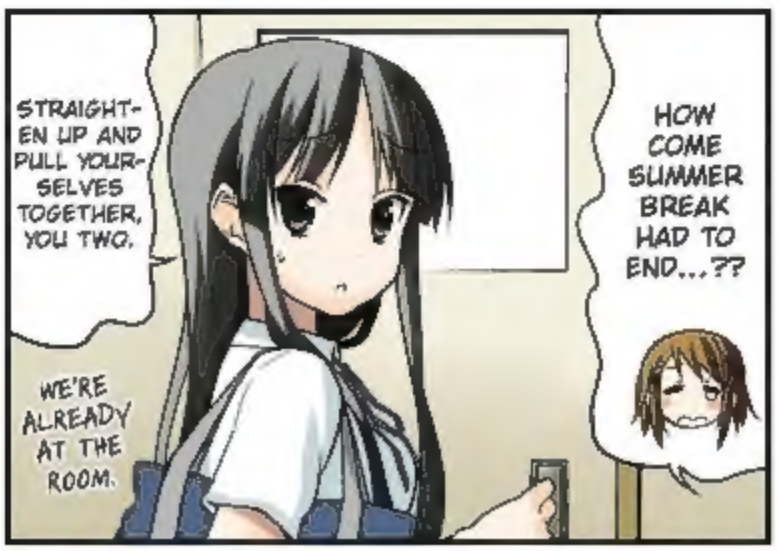
TUG

K ON!

GOOD AFTER-NOON, SENPAIS !!


GOT NO ENERGY...
SO SLEEPY...
THE NEW TERM


IT'S TOO BRIGHT... I CAN'T SEE...
WHOOOA...
WE JUST STARTED THE SECOND TERM! THE SECOND TERM!!


STRAIGHT-EN UP AND PULL YOUR-SELVES TOGETHER, YOU TWO.
WE'RE ALREADY AT THE ROOM.
HOW COME SUMMER BREAK HAD TO END...??

YEAH! THAT'S A GREAT IDEA

I KNOW. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT EACH OF US WRITING OUR OWN LYRICS AND COMPARING THEM?

AND THAT MEANS A CONCERT!!

SECOND TERM MEANS THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL!!

N-N-NO... YOURS ARE ONE CANDIDATE!!

SO THAT'S A "NO" ON MY LYRICS...?

AHH, RIGHT... SO THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO PEPPY...

YOU'RE TOO CLOSE

GLANCE GLANCE

HRMMM... WHAT SHOULD I DO FOR A TITLE...?

OH, WELL, ACTUALLY... I WROTE SOME NEW LYRICS OVER SUMMER BREAK.

I WANNA DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT! WHAT DO YOU THINK?

LIKE MAYBE WRITE A NEW SONG...?

COME ON, GUYS, TAKE IT SERIOUSLY.

THOSE ARE JUST STUPID ALLITERATIVE NAMES

I WAS THINKING "BAG GOES BANG"... YEAH?

HOW ABOUT "PITTY-PAT☆ PROTRACTOR"?

I'VE GOT A WHOLE BUNCH OF OTHERS TOO.

IN THE SWEET-SMELLING CANDY FOREST~ CHATTING WITH THE BABY BIRDIES...

UGHHH.

SHE'S PROBABLY ALL FIRED UP MAKING COSTUMES LIKE LAST YEAR, RIGHT?

SPEAKIN' OF CATCHING COLDS, WE HAVEN'T SEEN SAWA-CHAN AT ALL, HAVE WE? IT WAS HER CREATION THAT CAUSED YUI'S COLD IN THE FIRST PLACE.

ROUTINE

ALL RIGHT, THEN. WE EACH WRITE OUR OWN LYRICS AND COMPARE 'EM ONE WEEK FROM NOW!

I'M SO LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING THEM. ♡

AND I AM SO NOT!!

HEH HEH HEH...

YEAH, ME TOO!

FOR SOME REASON I FEEL REALLY EXCITED ABOUT THIS...!

OH, MISS YAMANAKA.

TOTTER

TOTTER

SAWAKO AT JUST THAT MOMENT

DON'T GET TOO WORKED UP AND CATCH COLD LIKE LAST YEAR.

IF ONLY YOU'D GET THAT MOTIVATED ABOUT STUDYING...

I CAN DO THIS...!!

OH... I'M FINE. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ASKING, THOUGH.

MY NECK'S STILL SORE FROM WHEN I PULLED IT AT THE MUSIC FESTIVAL THIS SUMMER...

YOU DON'T LOOK VERY WELL AT ALL. ARE YOU FEELING ALL RIGHT?

YOU GO OVERBOARD ON EVERYTHING!

I'VE BEEN EATING TANGERINES EVERY DAY, SO I'M TOTALLY SAFE! ... MY HANDS ARE TOTALLY YELLOW NOW, THOUGH!

UI WENT TO THE STORE AND BOUGHT A WHOLE BUNCH FOR ME

EH!?

THAT DECIDES IT! TONIGHT I'M GONNA STAY UP ALL NIGHT WRITING LYRICS!

THAT NIGHT

HERE, ONEE-CHAN, I PEELED A PEAR AND SLICED IT FOR YOU... ...ER, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'LL BE FINE! NO PROBLEM!

I'M TAKIN' THIS LAST PEAR, 'KAY?

REALLY ...? YOU KNOW, I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD..

LYRICS? THAT'S SO COOL! CAN I SEE WHAT YOU WROTE?

SURE

SO I'M WRITING MINE

THE POP MUSIC CLUB IS DOING A THING WHERE EVERYONE WRITES THEIR OWN SET OF LYRICS.

.....

.....

RICE IS THE DISH

Rice is awesome
It goes with everything
It goes with ramen
goes with udon
goes with okonomiyaki
It's a dream collaboration...
of carbs and more carbs!
Rice is awesome
It sucks to be without it
Instead of stuff going with rice,
It's like rice goes with stuff
If you're from Kansai,
You're gonna want
okonomiyaki and rice!
But I'm not from Kansai
(whatever, you!)
1! 2! 3! A! R-I-C-E!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

REALLY!? THANKS, UI! ♡

WITH LYRICS LIKE THAT, I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER THEY'LL BE USED...

OKAY... THEN I'LL STAY UP AND HELP YOU!!

I KNOW! IT'S GOOD, RIGHT?

THESE PEARS ARE YUMMY

UMM... IT'S, UM... VERY CREATIVE.

YOU LOOK REALLY SLEEPY, YUI.

FWAAAAH!

IT'S HARD, ISN'T IT? I NEVER KNEW WRITING LYRICS WAS THIS TOUGH

...I CAN'T THINK OF ANY-THING...

THE NEXT DAY

...OH NO, DON'T TELL ME WE'RE IN FOR A REPEAT OF LAST YEAR! I CAN'T TAKE ANOTHER ONE LIKE THAT.

YEH-HEH-HEH... I WAS SO INTO WRITING LYRICS THAT I DIDN'T GET MUCH SLEEP LAST NIGHT.

ABSOMO-LUTELY! I'VE ALREADY GOT THREE SONGS!

YOU MADE ANY PROGRESS, YUI!?

SERI-OUSLY!!? LEMME SEE!!

CUT IT OUT-!

HERE, I'LL SHARE SOME OF MY TANGERINE POWER WITH YOU

I'M OOOOKAY! I TOLD YOU—I GOT TANGERINE POWER IN MY CORNER!

THIS IS...YUI, ARE YOU SURE YOU WROTE THIS!?

.....!! AMAZING! SHE'S EVEN GOT THE RHYMES DOWN AND EVERY-THING!

DAMN IT! I TOLD YOU —!!

THAT NIGHT

MIO-CHAN... IT'S A COLD... PLEASE COME HELP ME...

IT WAS DEFINITELY MORE THAN A "TEENSY-WEENSY" BIT...

WELL, MAYBE I GOT JUST A TEENSY-WEENSY BIT OF HELP FROM U!.

I'M REALLY SORRY. THANK YOU, GUYS.

THERE YOU GO. YOU NEED TO LIE DOWN AND STAY DOWN.

YOU MEAN UI'S THE ONE WITH THE COLD?

HUFF!

HFF!

...HUH?

...ALL RIGHT. IN THAT CASE, WE'RE GOING BACK HOME, OKAY?

I THINK SHE'LL BE FINE.

SHE DOESN'T REALLY HAVE MUCH OF A FEVER.

DON'T SCARE US LIKE THAT - WELL, I MEAN, I KNOW UI-CHAN GETTING SICK IS STILL A HUGE DEAL... (FOR THE HIRASAWA HOUSEHOLD, ANYWAY.)

WE CAME HERE IN OUR PAJAMAS.

WAIT, SO YUI-CHAN DIDN'T CATCH A COLD AFTER ALL?

C'MON, HOW'S UI-CHAN SUPPOSED TO GET ANY REST WITH THE WHOLE CROWD OF US HERE, HUH?

UUUNH...BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN LOOK AFTER HER ALL BY MYSELF...

EH!? YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY!?

CALM DOWN, YUI. NOW, WHERE'S POOR UI-CHAN?

QUIVER

QUIVER

MIO-CHAN...! WHAT DO I DO!?

UI, YOU'RE THE PA-TIENT!

DON'T WORRY, ONEE-CHAN. I'M HERE FOR YOU!

BOLT

ガバッ

WHAT THE HELL -!!?

SWAY

SWAY

WEL-COME, EVERY-ONE I MADE TEA, IF YOU'D LIKE SOME ...

OH... OKAY ...?

ONEE-CHAN, I'LL BE ALL RIGHT BY MYSELF FOR A WHILE.

I'M ALL RIGHT ...

ARE YOU OKAY? IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU?

JUST GIVE ME A SHOUT IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.

OKAY

A-ARE YOU OKAY!??

KOFF! KOFF!

UNHM, YEAH. . IT WAS JUST A COUGH...

ZZZ

SHUT

OH RIGHT.

UUUH. . NOW I'M TOO WORRIED TO SLEEP...

I KNOW! I'LL MAKE HER SOME THING TO EAT! NOW WHERE ARE THE POTS..? OH CRAP!! I DROPPED AN EGG!

UNGH .. I FEEL A COUGH COMING ON, BUT I DON'T WANT TO WORRY HER..

STARE

YOU'RE TOO KIND THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

AND NOW FOR THE RESULTS OF THE VOTE... YUI'S LYRICS WIN!!

UNH?

CHIRP CHIRP. チュン チュン

MMMH... FEELS LIKE MY FEVER'S GONE DOWN...

IT'S AMAZING, YUI-CHAN! YOUR LYRICS REALLY MOVED ME!

DID YUI-SENPAI REALLY WRITE THIS...?

HUH?

OH, ONEE-CHAN... SHE WATCHED OVER ME ALL NIGHT...

FRIED EGG ON PORRIDGE?!

WAIT FOR OTHER PEOPLE TO SAY THAT.

WELL... I GUESS YOU COULD SAY MY TALENT FINALLY BLOS-SOMED.

.....
.....

OH... MORE LYRICS.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT ALREADY! WE'LL MAKE TWO NEW SONGS, OKAY!? TWO SONGS!!

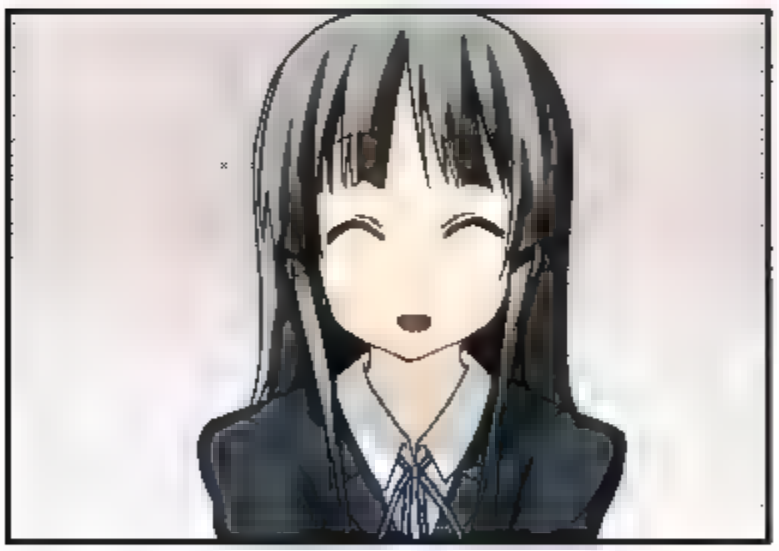
BUT WHAT ABOUT MY LYRICS?

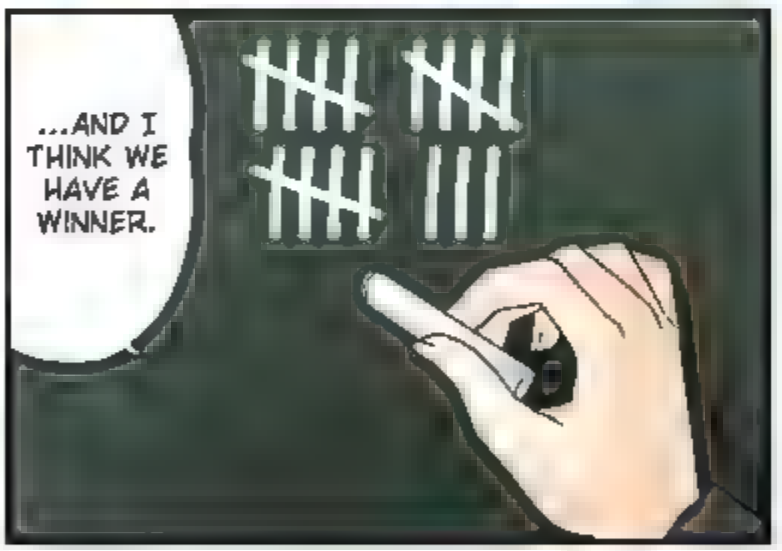
THANK YOU, ONEE-CHAN.

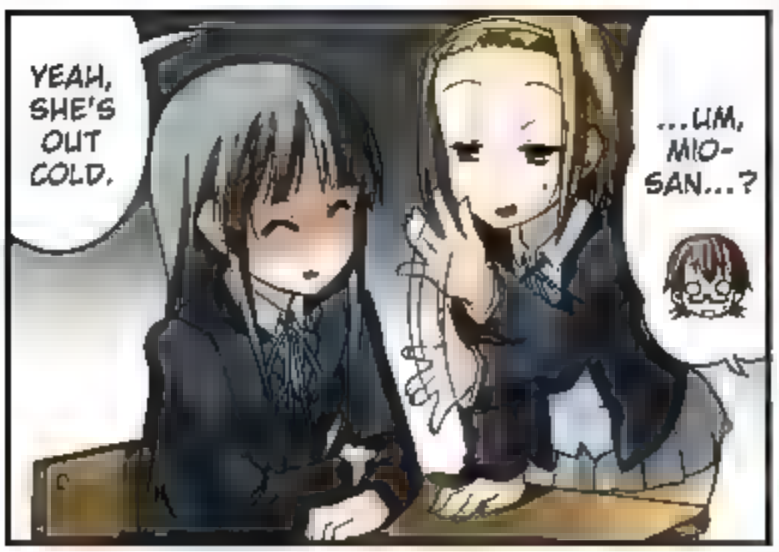
むにゅ NUZZLE

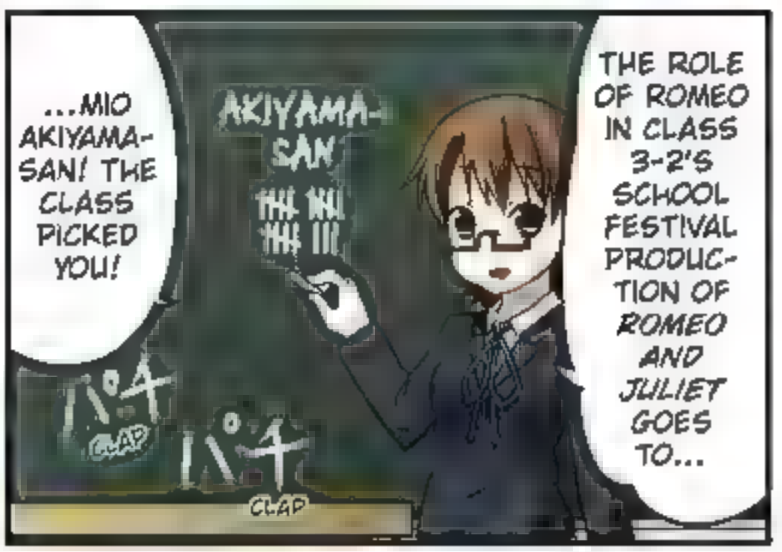
EH HEH HEH...

Without you, can't do
a single thing
All I wanna eat are the
meals you make
If you come back home to me
I'll hug you with the biggest
smile on my face
Without you, there's no one to
say sorry to
All I wanna hear is the sound
of your voice




...AND I THINK WE HAVE A WINNER.


YEAH, SHE'S OUT COLD.
...UM, MIO-SAN...?


...MIO AKIYAMA-SAN! THE CLASS PICKED YOU!
AKIYAMA-SAN
CLAP
CLAP
THE ROLE OF ROMEO IN CLASS 3-2'S SCHOOL FESTIVAL PRODUCTION OF ROMEO AND JULIET GOES TO...

UH... OBJECTION, YOUR HONOR—!!

"ROMEO AND JULIET" ROMEO

WELL, UH ..IT'S JUST HOW THE VOTE CAME OUT.

WH-WH-WHY ME!? HOW COME I HAVE TO PLAY THE LEAD ROLE!!?

"ROMEO AND JULIET" JULIET

ABRUPT CHANGE IN ATTITUDE NOW THAT THE SHOE'S ON THE OTHER FOOT, I SEE...

I MEAN, WHY THE HELL ARE WE EVEN DOIN' *ROMEO AND JULIET* IN THE FIRST PLACE!??

NOW I SEE!

YOU THINK THAT'S PRETTY DANG CLEVER, DON'T YOU!!?

OH, I GET IT. MIO-CHAN GETS THE ROLE BECAUSE IT'S RO-MI*O*.

AND I'M DOING THE SCRIPT.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHY...? THIS WAS DECIDED IN HOMEROOM AGES AGO.

SURE... BECAUSE *YOU* DON'T HAFTA DO IT...!

C'MON!! WHAT'S THE B G DEAL, MIO? IT SOUNDS TOTALLY FUN!

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN—!!?

UUH FU FU!

BUT NOW THAT RIT CHAN AND MIO CHAN ARE PLAYING THE LEAD ROLES, I THINK THE SCRIPT IS GO NG TO NEED SOME MAJOR REWRITES ...

HWEH?

AND IT LOOKS LIKE TAINAKA-SAN'S PLAYING JULIET.

N-NODOKA... I JUST CAN'T PLAY THE LEAD ROLE...

DING DONG

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE MOST OF THE ROLES HAVE BEEN DECIDED ON, SO NOW WE NEED TO MOVE ON TO THE BACKSTAGE ASSIGNMENTS. FIRST WE NEED SOMEONE TO BE IN CHARGE OF COSTUMES—

ME!!

...BUT YOU KNOW, THE WHOLE CLASS PICKED YOU FOR THE ROLE. WON'T YOU AT LEAST TRY?

IF YOU REALLY CAN'T DO IT, THEN I'LL THINK ABOUT HAVING SOMEONE ELSE STEP IN...

...YAMANAKA-SENSEI?

NO-DOKA'S GOT THE MOM POWER, ALL RIGHT.

NO-DOKA'S MOM POWER.

UUH... ALL RIGHT...

NO PROBLEM!! I PROMISE! I WON'T LET ANYTHING GET OUT OF HAND!

BUT...BUT WE REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE A TEACHER DO—

AKIYAMA-SAN AS ROMEO!

SQUEE! SQUEE

STILL... I'VE GOT A HARD TIME BELIEVIN' THE CLASS PICKED HER 'COS THEY LIKE HER ACTING...

PYEEH!!

GLEAM

HWEGH!?
BUT MIO-SENPAI, I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AS ROMEO!

WOW... SO YOUR CLASS IS GONNA PUT ON A PLAY, HUH?

しお CRY
しお CRY
YOU SHOULDN'T LOOK FORWARD TO IT.. I DON'T EVEN WANNA DO IT...
WHAT? BUT IT'S THE LEAD ROLE...THAT'S AWESOME, ISN'T IT?

BAM
PFF-PFF-PFFT-
YOU WANNA LAUGH, YOU DO IT TO MY FACE, YA LITTLE SHOT —!!
AND WITH RITSU-SENPAI PLAYING JULIET ...!

VOCALS..?
OH... BUT THAT'S RIGHT, YOU ALSO HAVE TO DO THE VOCALS IN THE CONCERT.

YU...YUI-SENPAI... WHO ARE YOU GONNA PLAY?
HELLLLP! HELLLLP!
I'LL TEACH YOU TO LAUGH~

UH? ... WHAT?
OH BROTHER... AZUSA, DIDYA REALLY HAFTA LAND THE FINISHING BLOW?
CAN'T... DO...IT...

...DID THEY REALLY NEED THAT MANY PEOPLE TO PLAY TREES?
"G"? AS IN A, B, C, D..?
CHECK OUT MY "TREE" POSE!
TREE "G"!

...THAT I SHALL SAY GOOD NIGHT TILL IT BE MORROW...

UM..... GOOD NIGHT, GOOD NIGHT... PARTING IS SUCH SWEET SORROW...

THE COLD READ

WAIT! I JUST THOUGHT OF A GOOD IDEA!!

THESE CHEESY LINES SET MY TEETH ON EDGE!!

AAAH! I CAN'T DO THIS ANY-MORE!! I JUST CANNOT DO JU-LIET!!

WHUH!? S-SORRY, I GUESS...

CUT! RIT-CHAN, YOU NEED TO FEEL JULIET HERE!

YOU SHOULD PRACTICE ACTING LIKE A REGULAR GIRL AS PART OF YOUR DAILY ROUTINE!

-BUT WHATEVER. LAY IT ON ME.

HONESTLY? 'COS NOT ONCE HAS ONE OF YOUR SO-CALLED "GOOD IDEAS" EVER ACTUALLY BEEN A GOOD IDEA...

UUH... YOU'RE TOO TOUGH ON US, MUGI...

AND...CUT! MIO-CHAN, YOU CAN'T SHOW ANY EMBAR-RASSMENT HERE!

ARE YOU FREA-KIN' KIDDIN' ME!?

ALL RIGHT, RIT-CHAN, FROM THIS MOMENT FORWARD, YOU'RE FORBIDDEN TO TALK LIKE A BOY, OKAY?

RIGHT THERE! THAT'S EXACTLY HOW NOT TO SAY IT

...EH HEH. ♡

I TOTALLY SOUND LIKE A DIRECTOR, RIGHT?

...WAIT A MINUTE. YOU'RE NOT BEIN' LIKE THIS JUST 'COS YOU WANNA SAY "CUT!", ARE YOU?

YOU KNOW, THIS IS REALLY JUST TOO MUCH FOR ME TO HANDLE...
HAAAH...

AND, THEN...

IT'S NOT TOO LATE. SHOULD WE JUST GO TELL THEM WE DON'T WANNA DO IT?
HEY, RITSU?

NGWUH!?
RIT-CHAN! DON'T TALK WITH YOUR MOUTH FULL!

I CAN'T BREATHE WITH THIS DAMN SHIRT TUCKED IN!!
GWAAGH!!

YEEGH!!
YOU NEED TO TUCK YOUR SHIRT IN!!

ALL... RIGHT ...
ESPECIALLY THAT YUI! WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS? SHE'S JUST A TREE!
MIO! YOU AND ME ARE GONNA HAVE OURSELVES A PRIVATE PRACTICE SESSION! THEY THINK THEY CAN KEEP MAKIN' FOOLS OF US LIKE THIS, BUT THEY GOT ANOTHER THINK COMIN'!!

OH, COME ON!! THEN HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO PLAY THE DRUMS ..!!?
LIKE A GAME FOR THEM.
NO SITTING WITH YOUR LEGS OPEN!!

IMITATING MIO

OOO ROMEO, ROMEO! WHEREFORE ART THOU ROMEO?

THAT IS SO NOT ME.

THEY TOTALLY SHOULDA PICKED YOU INSTEAD FOR JULIET, MIO. I MEAN, LOOK—

ギ

STUMBLE

ニャ

IT SEEMS SHE HANGS UPON THE CHEEK OF NIGHT...

UM...O, SH-SHE DOTH...UM, UM...T-TEACH THE TORCHES TO BURN BRIGHT...

IMITATING RITSU

YO, JULIET, BABE, WHY ART THOU YET SO FAIR?

I DON'T REMEMBER ROMEO BEING LIKE THAT.

BUT TWO CAN PLAY AT THAT GAME. HERE'S WHY YOU'RE A BETTER CHOICE FOR ROMEO, RITSU.

FINE, RITSU! THEN YOU DO YOURS!

WHO'S THAT SUPPOSED TO BE!?

THAT WAS PATHETIC! IF THAT'S ALL YOU'VE GOT, YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT AN ACTING CAREER!

SAME WITH YOU, RITSU. YOU WERE TALKING JUST LIKE A NORMAL GIRL...

.. BUT HOLD ON! YOU JUST SAID THAT LINE LIKE IT WAS NOTHIN'.

WAVER

...BY ANY OTHER NAME WOULD SMELL AS SWEET!

WHAT'S IN A NAME? THAT WHICH WE CALL A ROSE...

WE DID IT—!!

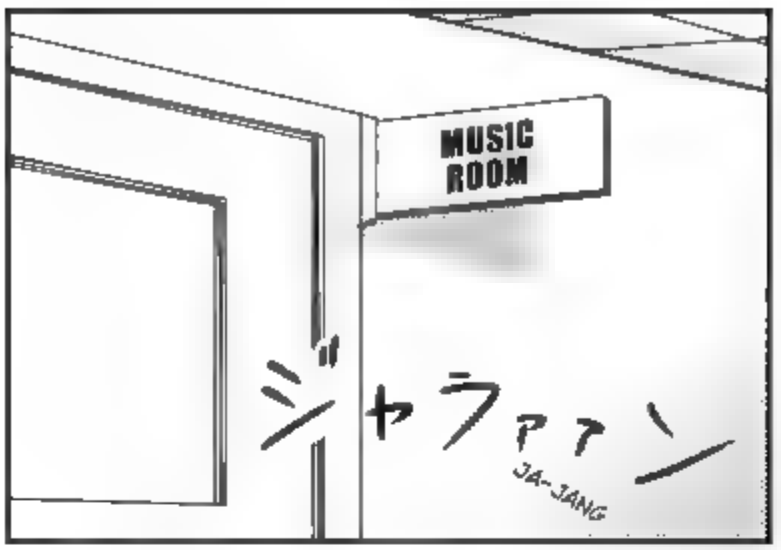
HUG

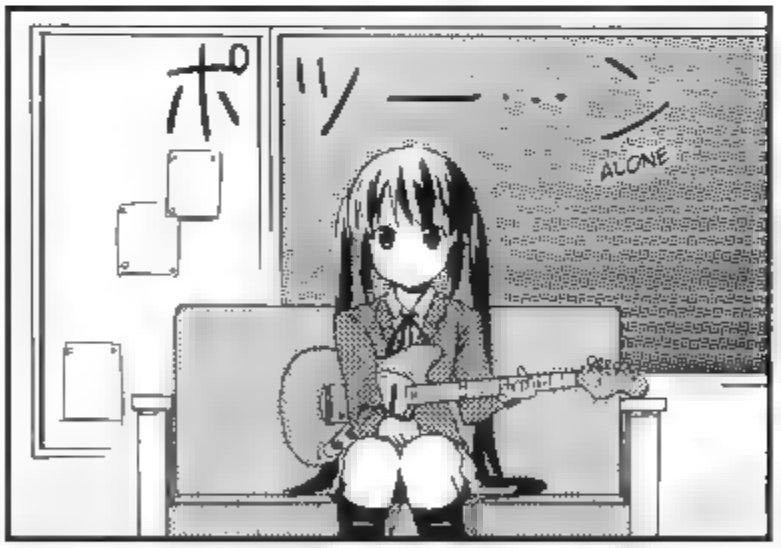
WE DID IT—!

WE'RE SCREWED. WE'RE NOT EVEN GOOD ENOUGH TO GET THROUGH PRACTICE

MY TUMMY HURTS FROM LAUGHING.

YOU... YOU ARE SO THE WRONG PERSON TO PLAY JULIET... WAH-HAH-HAH-HAH-HAH...





AND ME? WHAT ABOUT ME?
UHHH, BUT I STILL GET SO NERVOUS...
CLAP
MIO-CHAN, THAT WAS AMAZING! THERE WAS SO MUCH PASSION IN YOUR DELIVERY!

SFX: BADUM BADUM

YA KNOW, WOULD IT KILL YOU TO GIVE ME AN HONEST COMPLI-MENT, YUI-CHAN?
ぐすん
SNIFF
BUT, MAN .. I WAS REALLY HOPING WE'D GET TO KEEP PICKING ON YOU, RIT-CHAN...

SHIRTS: K-ON!

100 OUT OF 100 CITIZENS SURVEYED REPORTED THAT YOUR ROLE IN THE PLAY IS INFINITELY WEIRDER.

THE THOUGHT OF YOU PLAYING JULIET STILL SEEMS REALLY WEIRD TO ME, RITCHAN ..

MIO-CHAN, YOU LOOK SO CUTE!

EEK!

WOW!

LOOKS LIKE JULIET WEARS THE PANTS IN THIS RELATIONSHIP.

UHHHH_

C'MON, IT'S ALMOST OUR CUE.

DON'T I JUST.

U-FU!

RIT-CHAN, YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE TOO! ♡

O CHURL! DRUNK ALL, AND LEFT NO FRIENDLY DROP TO HELP ME AFTER!?

POISON, I SEE, HATH BEEN HIS TIMELESS END!!

WHOA .. THE ROOM IS TOTALLY PACKED ALREADY.

ざわ MURMUR

ざわ MURMUR

ざわ MURMUR

...THIS IS THY SHEATH. THERE RUST, AND LET ME DIE...

O HAPPY DAGGER ..

OH... YEAH... COMING ..

HEY AZUSA-CHAN, YOU'D BETTER HURRY AND GET IN. MY SISTER'S PLAY'S ABOUT TO START.

THEY MUST'VE REALLY PUT THEIR HEARTS AND SOULS INTO PRACTICING FOR THIS. NOW I SEE WHY THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY TIME LEFT OVER TO COME TO THE MUSIC ROOM...

...MIO-SENPAI AND RITSU-SENPAI ARE BOTH AMAZING. IT'S ALMOST LIKE WATCHING THE REAL ROMEO AND JULIET..!

MAYBE THEY JUST DON'T CARE ABOUT THE CONCERT ANY-MORE...

...THIS WHOLE WEEK, NOT A SINGLE ONE OF THEM EVEN BOTHERED COMING TO PRACTICE...

W-WERE YOU THAT MOVED BY THE PLAY...?

ぱち CLAP

ぱち CLAP

I GUESS THEY REALLY HAVE FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT THE POP MUSIC CLUB..

だ— SOB

ぱち CLAP

And that concludes Class 3-2's performance of *Romeo and Juliet*!!

AZUSA-CHAAAN ...

WE'VE GOTTA HURRY UP

AHH! BUT THAT'S NOT FAIR— THE CLASS PLAY'S REALLY IMPORTANT TOO!!

I'M SO PETTY!

...SO I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU DIDN'T CARE VERY MUCH ABOUT THE CONCERT ANYMORE...

IT'S JUST... WELL, YOU GUYS HAVEN'T BEEN COMING TO THE MUSIC ROOM MUCH LATELY...

YAY!

MAN, I'M POOPED_!

YAY

AZUSA ...

B-BUT NOW I KNOW YOU GUYS WERE JUST BUSY WITH THE PLAY! I'M SORRY I THOUGHT THAT!

AH! AZU-MEOW!

YOU WERE REALLY GOOD, MIO-CHAN!

I AM NEVER DOING ANOTHER PLAY AGAIN IN MY LIFE...

WE'RE SORRY, AZUSA-CHAN. WE WEREN'T TRYING TO IGNORE THE POP MUSIC CLUB, YOU KNOW.

...YOU ARE SO SILLY, AZUSA!

.....
.....

SO AZU-MEOW, HOW WAS IT? WHAT'D YOU THINK OF OUR LITTLE PLAY?

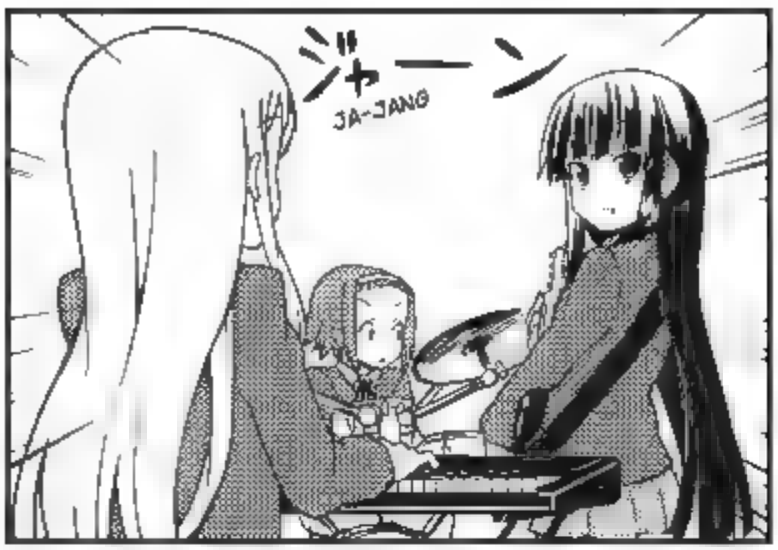
OKAY, OKAY! YOU DON'T NEED TO GO THAT FAR!!

MMM~ ♡

THAT'S RIGHT, AZU-MEOW! I MEAN, LOOK AT ME— I THINK ONLY OF YOU ALLLLL DAAAAY LOOONG!

TH-THAT'S NOT IT!

WHAT'S THIS? FEELIN' LONELY 'COS WE HAVEN'T BEEN HERE TO PAY ATTENTION TO YOU...?

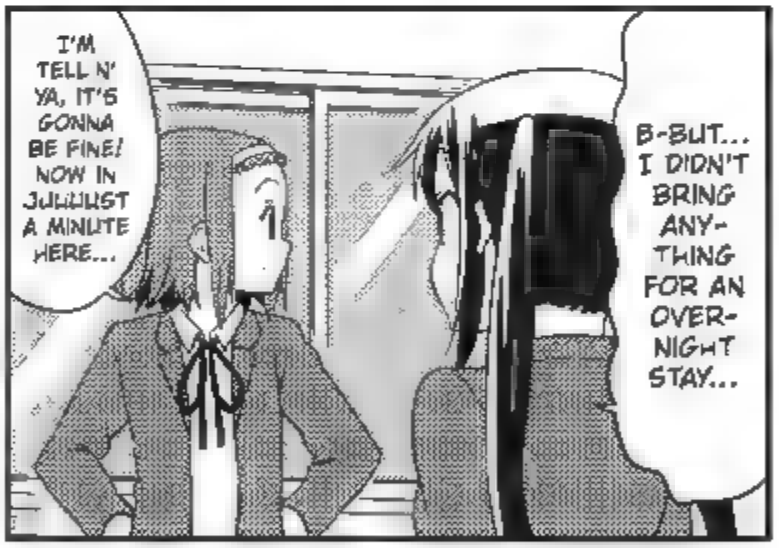

ジャーン
JA-JANG

YO!!
THAT'S YOUR CUE, GUI-TA!
ALL RIGHT! WE'VE GOT THE CONCERT TOMOR-ROW, SO TONIGHT WE STAY THE NIGHT HERE AND PRAC-TICE!!

I TOTALLY KNOW WHATCHA MEAN! IT'S LIKE YOU'RE JUST ITCHIN' TO DO STUFF!
OO-HOO-HOO... BEING AT THE SCHOOL AT NIGHT FEELS KINDA EXCITING IN A WEIRD WAY, DOESN'T IT!?

TOTALLY, TOTALLY! WE DID T LAST YEAR!
UM... ARE WE REALLY ALLOWED TO SPEND THE NIGHT AT THE SCHOOL ...?

HMM?
POKE
MIIIII-OOO-CHAN! ♪


I'M TELL N' YA, IT'S GONNA BE FINE! NOW IN JUUUUST A MINUTE HERE...
B-BUT... I DIDN'T BRING ANY-THING FOR AN OVER-NIGHT STAY...

GEEZ... THEY'RE ALL STARTING TO LOSE IT...
HEE-HEE-HEE NO REASON
HEY! WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT FOR—!?

HANDY TEACH-ER...
SEE?
ガラッ SLIDE
HI, GIRLS! I BROUGHT SLEEPING BAGS FOR EVERY-BODY!

YOU GUYS, LOOK WHAT TIME IT IS!!

WHOA!

WHOA-HOA! LOOKS LIKE MUGI'S BUSTIN' LOOSE IN A FUN WAY!

BUT WHADDAYA MEAN BY "NOW THEN" IF

NOW, THEN...I SAY WE ALL WRITE ANOTHER SONG!!

WHAT'S THIS "GO TO BED" CRAP!!? WE'RE STAYIN' UP ALL NIGHT! ALL NIGHT!!

WE REALLY SHOULD PROB-ABLY GO TO BED PRETTY SOON...

I KNOW! I KNOW! I WANT US TO DO MY SONG, "RICE IS THE DISH"!!

UM... I HAVE SOME LYR—

WE'RE NOT LETTING YOU GET ANY SLEEP TO-NIGHT! ♡

WHAT...? UM, YOU GUYS...

THAT'S WHAT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL IS ALL ABOUT, STAYIN' UP ALL NIGHT PREPAR-ING!

BFFF-PFFT!

EH...? NO WAY! IT'S THE PERFECT TIME FOR "RICE IS THE DISH"!

NAH, NAH... I THINK THIS IS A TIME FOR "BAG GOES BANG"!

CRASHING WHEN IT'S PRACTICALLY MORNING ANYWAY...

...I KNEW IT...

ZZZZ.

TWO HOURS LATER

MORE LIKE HAD IT WITH US.

OH!? IS AZUSA STARTIN' TO BUST LOOSE TOO...!?

AH. I SWEAR.

MPFFF... MPFFF-PFF-PFFF. PFFF PFFF...

EH !!?

WE EVEN TOOK YOUR ABUSE, OKAY..?

SOR... SORRY, SAWA-CHAN... WE'RE TOO GROGGY TO MAKE FUN OF YOU NOW...

THE NEXT MORNING

ガラッ SLIDE

EVERY-ONE STILL HERE —?

...SO, UM... YEAH.

I MADE YOU GIRLS SOME CLOTHES ...

ZZZ

SKZZZ

FINE ...

AND HERE I WENT TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF MAKING THESE FOR...

HOKAGO TEATIME

じ——————...

STARE

...YOU ...?

HEY. HEY. GET UP.

HEY. WAKE UP...

AHH... THIS... THIS IS WHAT I LIVE FOR!!

AWE-SOME!! THEY'RE SO CUTE!!

THESE ROCK, SAWA-CHAN!!

ぐ FLOOMP

ぐらん ぐらん FLOOMP

BEING IGNORED IS THE ONE THING THAT REALLY GETS TO ME!! PLEASE STOP!!

EVERY-ONE'S WEAR-ING THE SAME T-SHIRT AS US...

WH-WHAT'S GOING ON—!?

ALL RIGHT! WE'RE READY TO ROLL!

BE-FORE THE SHOW

NODO-KA!?

After-school Tea Time in con-cert!!

And now, the moment you've all been waiting for, the main event of the Sakura gaoka High Cultural Festi-val...

OUR LAST YEAR, AND FINALLY WE GET SOME DECENT OUTFITS OUT OF HER.

THESE T-SHIRTS REALLY ARE CUTE, AREN'T THEY!?

WHOA. . WHOA, NODO-KA!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?

Everyone please give a warm round of applause for—

ALL RIGHT! HERE WE GO! LET'S DO THIS, GUYS!!

FLASH

Next up, we have a live perfor-mance from the Pop Music Club.

SO YOU BECAME PRESIDENT OF MY FAN CLUB —!!?

SHE WOULD'VE GOTTEN MAD AT ME IF I HADN'T AT LEAST DONE SOMETHING

. WELL, IT KIND OF JUST HAPPENED, BUT I ACTUALLY ENDED UP TAKING OVER THE PRESIDENCY OF THE MIO FAN CLUB, AFTER ALL ..

... WHOA... WHAT THE...?

WAAAAA

WHADDAYA MEAN "ALMOST"? YOU'RE ALREADY BLUBBER-ING.

It almost brings tears to our eyes...

Umm... we're After-school Tea Time .and this is so unexpected We never imagined everyone would be here showing their support for us like this...

HA HA HA!

HEY... CALM DOWN, YOU GUYS...

WHAT ABOUT THE T-SHIRT EVERYONE'S WEARING...!??

SO? SO? SO—!!?

SNIFF

SOB

HEE HEE HEE... THAT'S TRUE...

YOU CAN DO IT!!

WE LOVE YOU, YUI-CHAN!

LOOK.

Ho-kago Tea Time

SHE AND I PASSED THEM OUT TO EVERY-ONE RIGHT BEFORE THE CONCERT.

YAMA-NAKA-SENSEI PROVIDED ALL THE T-SHIRTS.

... and we hope you like this song!!

YAAAAY

All right... we're After-school Tea Time...

TINGLE

TINGLE

THANK YOU SO MUCH, YAMANAKA-SENSEI!!

HEH HEH... YEP, OUR LITTLE "SHOCK" PLAN WORKED LIKE A CHARM!

YUI AND THE OTHER GIRLS WERE REALLY SURPRISED, WEREN'T THEY?

COLLAPSED

ほけ――――……

SAWAKO! SAWAKO!

HEH HEH HEH

AND NOW COMES ...

I WONDER IF WE EVEN SOUNDED GOOD. I CAN'T REMEMBER A THING.

...THE WHOLE THING WENT BY REALLY FAST, DIDN'T IT?

HI GIRLS! GOOD JOB ON THE CONCERT!!

ガラ SLIDE

...BUT IT WAS REALLY FUN, WASN'T IT!?

ME TOO! I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TO PLAY ANYMORE.

IT'S ALL 'COS OF THAT STUPID SURPRISE! IT SENT MY EMOTIONS ALL OVER THE PLACE.. !!

..THEY LOOK REALLY HAPPY...

SNORE くー

...AND THEY'RE ASLEEP !!

HUH? YEEK!! PLEASE STOP HUGGING ME OVER EVERY LITTLE THING—!!

EHHH—!? BUT IT WAS FUN! RIGHT? RIGHT, AZU-MEOW!?

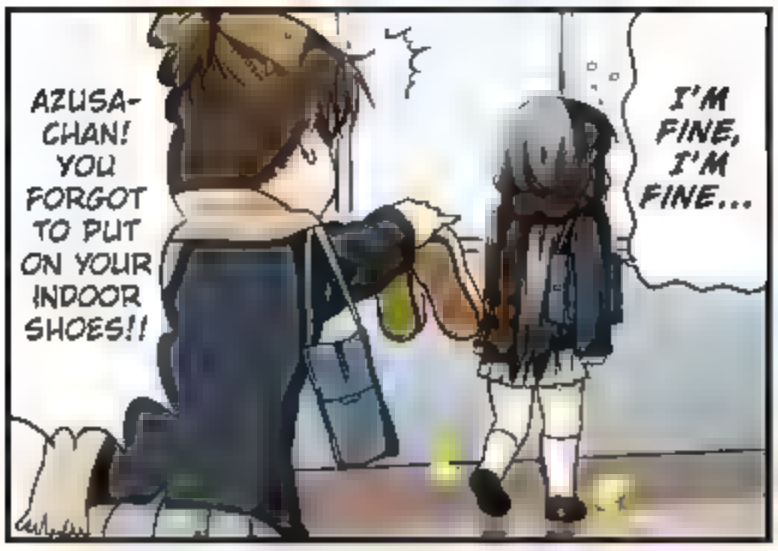
..I WISH I COULD SEE THINGS AS SIMPLY AS YOU DO, YUI-CHAN.

BUT NOW THAT WE'RE ON THE TOPIC, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE MONEY THE STUDENT COUNCIL AGREED TO FLOAT YOU FOR THE T-SHIRTS...
ZZZZZZ...
FTERSCH
TEA TIM

K-ON!
K-ON!

"OUT OF IT"...? ARE YOU OKAY?
OH. . CRAP. I WAS KINDA OUT OF IT THIS MORNING. I GUESS I FORGOT TO TIE IT UP.

OH, AZUSA-CHAN. GOOD MORNING...
GOOD MORNING, UI!


AZUSA-CHAN! YOU FORGOT TO PUT ON YOUR INDOOR SHOES!!
I'M FINE, I'M FINE...

HUH?
WHOA! WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR HAIR!? ARE YOU GOING FOR A NEW LOOK?

HEE-HEE-HEE... JUST ONCE, I WANTED TO TRY GIVING YOU A BIG HUG LIKE SHE DOES.

WHY DOES IT HAFTA BE YUI-SENPAI'S HAIRDO !!?

OH, NOTHING... JUST, NOW THAT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL'S OVER, I FEEL LIKE ALL THE LIFE'S BEEN KNOCKED OUT OF ME...

THANKS.

GEEZ, AZUSA... WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU TODAY?

WE WERE TALKING ABOUT HAIRDOS.

UHH... WHAT PART?

... WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TWO DOIN'?

YEAH, WHY NOT! WHAT'D YOU HAVE IN MIND?

BUT YOU KNOW, CHANGING HAIRSTYLES ISN'T SUCH A BAD IDEA. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT ME CHANGING MINE...?

HUH !?

HEY JUN-CHAN, YOU WANNA TRY OUT A NEW HAIRDO OF YOUR OWN?

TA-DAA.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I GOTTA GO THROUGH TYIN' IT UP EVERY MORNING.

... PLEASE DON'T. IF I TAKE OUT THESE BARRETTES, MY HAIR JUST EXPLODES ON ME!

GYAAAH !!

AAAAA-ZUUUU-MEOW! ♡

IT'S...IT'S NOTHING.

ARE YOU OKAY?

WHY ARE YOU SO OUT OF BREATH?

AFTER SCHOOL

THE SCHOOL GROUNDS LOOK SO EMPTY, DON'T THEY?

THAT'S BECAUSE ALL THE SENIORS HAVE ALREADY WITHDRAWN FROM THE SPORTS CLUBS.

HMPH.

DON'T PUT ME IN THE SAME CATEGORY AS YOU, YU-SENPAI.

SAY "AHHHH"!

YOU JUST WANTED TO GET HERE IN TIME TO FEAST ON MUGI-CHAN'S DELICIOUS TREATS, HUH?

AZUSA-CHAN?

WAIT A MINUTE... THAT MIGHT MEAN ...!

CRAP...!! IT'S ALWAYS TIMES LIKE THIS WHEN SHE'S RIGHT ON THE MARK!!

YOU THOUGHT WE ALREADY WITHDREW FROM THE CLUB AND WOULDN'T BE COMIN' TO THE CLUBROOM ANYMORE, DIDN'CHA?

DOES THAT MEAN MY SENPAIS WON'T BE COMING TO THE CLUB-ROOM ANYMORE ...!?

NOW THAT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL IS OVER, DOES THAT MEAN THE SENIORS WILL QUIT THE POP MUSIC CLUB TOO. !?

SLIDE

SHE'S JUST SO DOG-GONE CUTE. ♡

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO FEEL HAPPY OR HUMILIATED. OOOH. .!

WOULD YA LOOK AT THAT.. AZU-SA'S A LITTLE LONELY-BUG!

EXHAUSTED

OH, AZU-MEOW. YO-HO!

ALL RIGHT, GUYS, ENOUGH WITH THE JOKES ...

BWAAAH—!!

WE WON'T BOTHER YOU, WILL WE?

THE TRUTH IS, WE WERE THINKING WE'D STUDY FOR THE ENTRANCE EXAMS IN HERE FROM NOW ON. .

AND WHAT'S WITH THAT REAC-TION!!?

THE TERROR...

THAT WAS VIOLENT... REALLY VIOLENT

WH-WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU GUYS DOING HERE IN THE CLUB-ROOM ANY-WAY!?

AIN'T THAT WON-DERFUL, AZUSA? NOW YOU WON'T HAFTA BE ALL BY YOUR LONE-SOME IN HERE.

IT'LL BE GREAT TO KEEP THE CLUBROOM LIVELY!

OH, IF THAT'S ALL YOU'LL BE DOING, YOU WON'T BOTHER ME ONE BIT!

AND THE SNACKS!

THE AIR CONDITION-ING!

RIGHT! YOU ASKED WHY WE'RE HERE?

I WILL SO!!

BUT THEN... WHY ARE YOU HERE, RITSU-SENPAI? I KNOW YOU'RE NOT GONNA STUDY.

YOU TOO, SENSEI ...?

GIGGLE

THERE'S NO REASON NOT TO BE HERE. ♡

GIGGLE

AND WHAT IS WITH THOSE FACES?

I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I STUDIED HARD AND WENT TO COLLEGE JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

OH, THAT REMINDS ME... RIT-CHAN? YUI-CHAN?

BUT WE'RE CURIOUS, SAWA-CHAN. I MEAN, IF THIS IS WHAT YOU WERE LIKE N HIGH SCHOOL, WHAT MADE YOU DEC DE TO BE A TEACHER?

OH PUT THAT AWAY.. IT'S SO EMBAR-RASSING. ♡

URK.

I ASSUME THE TWO OF YOU HAVE COME TO A DECISION ABOUT YOUR FUTURE PLANS BY NOW?

SO WHAT HAPPENED WITH YOU AND THAT BOY?

IMPURE MOTIVES, EH...

はわ～ WARM FUZZIES

THERE WAS THIS BOY I LIKED BACK THEN, AND HE KEPT SAYING HE WANTED TO BE A TEACHER. SO I THOUGHT, OKAY, I'LL DO THAT TOO. ♡

OH REALLY! IT MAKES ME SO HAPPY TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT!

I, UM... I WANNA BE JUST LIKE YOU, SAWA-CHAN!

THERE SHE GOES AGAIN, GOUGING OUT HEARTS WITH-OUT A HINT OF MALICE...

ぎゅ SQUEEEEEEZE

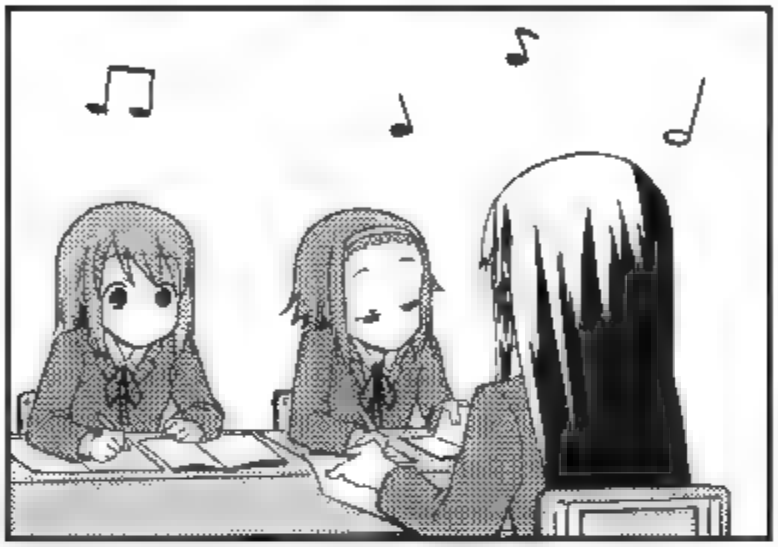
HE. DUMPED. ME... SATIS-FIED!!?

I DO WORK TOO, YOU KNOW.

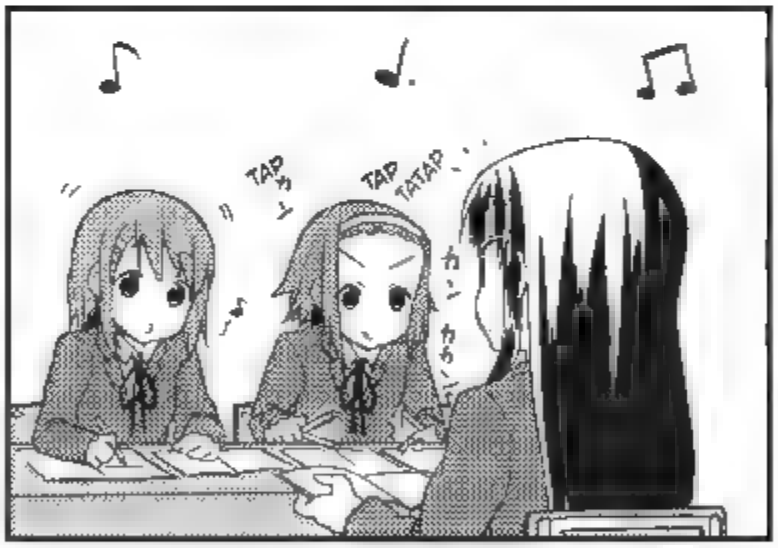
I WANNA EAT SNACKS AND DRINK TEA AND LOUNGE AROUND ALL DAY... LIKE YOU DO, SAWA-CHAN!

OH SURE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT US, OKAY?
WOULD YOU GUYS MIND IF I PRACTICED GUITAR FOR A BIT?
WHY DON'T YOU TRY STUDYING?

THE CENTER TEST !?
SO FOR THE TIME BEING, WHY DON'T YOU GIRLS JUST STUDY FOR THE CENTER TEST?
ANYWAY, IT SEEMS LIKE MORE AND MORE KIDS THESE DAYS DECIDE TO GO TO COLLEGE ONLY BECAUSE THEY'RE STILL NOT SURE WHAT THEY WANT TO DO YET.



WHOA!!
THIS IS A SIX-SIDED PENCIL!!
IF IT'S MULTIPLE CHOICE, THEN I'VE GOT THE ANSWERS COV-ERED!!


TAP
TAP
TATAP
カン
カン

.. THE QUESTIONS ON THE CENTER TEST HAVE MUL-TIPLE CHOICE OPTIONS FROM 0 TO 9
HEH HEH HEH
ALL WE NEED IS THIS PENCIL, AND WE'RE PRACTICALLY GUARANTEED TO PASS!

YEEEK!!
FOCUS!!

YOU TWO SURE GIVE UP QUICK!!
SHOOT. IN THAT CASE, WE'RE SCREWED.

EVEN THOUGH YOU USUALLY NEVER WANT TO PRAC-TICE...?

MAN! ISN'T IT SOOO GREAT BEING IN A BAND? ♡

ピクッ JUMP

ARRRGH!! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE!!

ガタッ CLATTER

AND WHAT'S THAT YOU HAVE IN YOUR HANDS, MIO-SAN? OH...IS IT A BASS?

I SWEAR, YOU GUYS... THIS DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR YOUR STUDIES.

HEY! HOLD ON, YOU GUYS...

YEAH, ME TOO! I'M GETTING MY GUITAR!

I'M GONNA PLAY DRUMS !!

WHAT'S YOUR PURPOSE IN COMIN' HERE, ANYWAY?

OH, DON'T MENTION IT

THANKS FOR THE SNACKS.

ALL RIGHT, GIRLS ..I SHOULD GET BACK TO THE FACULTY ROOM.

♪ ジャラァーン ズンタン ♪ JA-JANG DONP TAT

YOU GUYS DON'T NEED TO STUDY?

IT'S A BREAK! WE'RE TAKIN' A BREAK!

SURE, OKAY!!

?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. MIO-CHAN, COULD YOU DROP BY THE FACULTY ROOM AFTER THIS?

GRIN GRIN ニヤ ニヤ

THE NEXT DAY

SENSE!!!

OH! WHAT'S THIS?

MIO-CHAN!! HOW COME YOU GOT CALLED TO THE FACULTY ROOM!?

THANKS FOR EVERY-THI— WAUH!!

BAM

WHAT BRINGS THE THREE OF YOU TO THE FACULTY ROOM?

WE CAME TO TURN IN OUR FUTURE GOALS DEC-LARA-TIONS!!

I KNEW IT! I THOUGHT SOME-THING WAS UP 'COS YOU WERE STUDYIN' SO MUCH!

H-HOW DID YOU KNOW!?

.. YOU DIDN'T JUST TURN DOWN YOUR ADMISSION REC-OM-MENDA-TION, DID YOU?

.....
.....

VERY WELL.

I...I JUST WANTED TO STUDY TOGETHER WITH YOU GUYS...AND IF IT WORKS OUT, HOPE-FULLY WE CAN ALL GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE TOGETHER... THAT'S ALL.

BUT WHY'D YOU TURN IT DOWN? IT'S REALLY HARD TO GET THOSE...

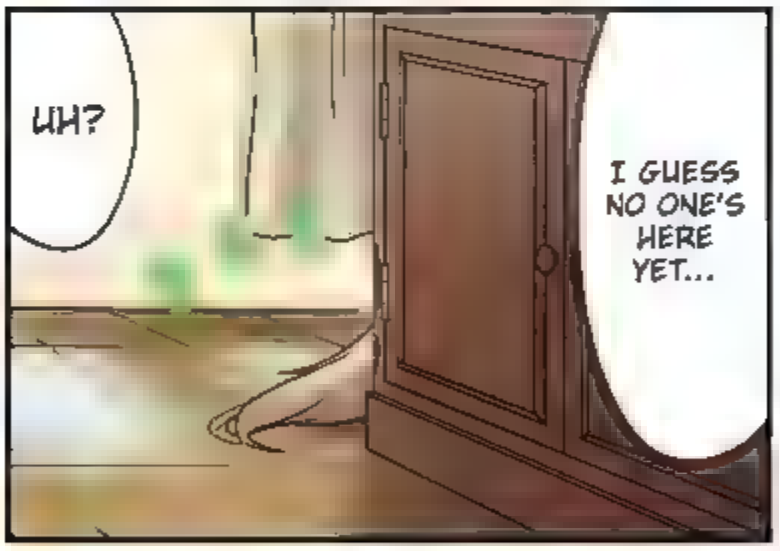
I NOW HAVE ALL YOUR DEC-LARATION SHEETS. GOOD LUCK, GIRLS

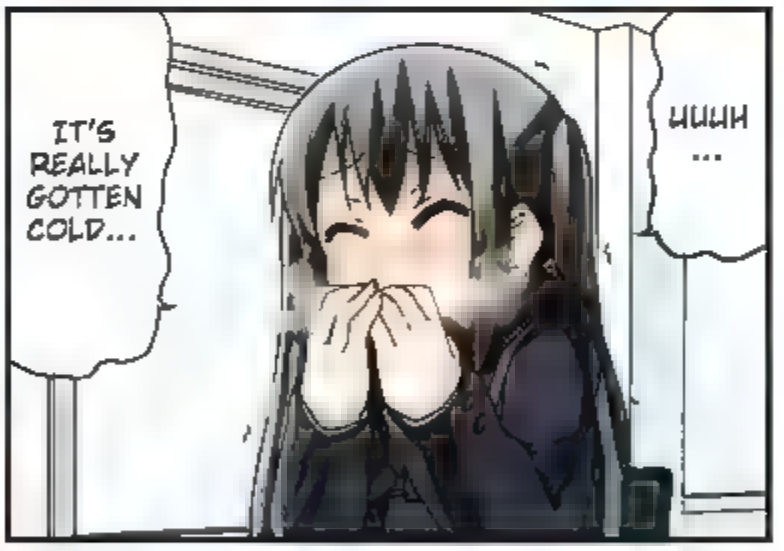
THANKS !!

...COL-LEGE.

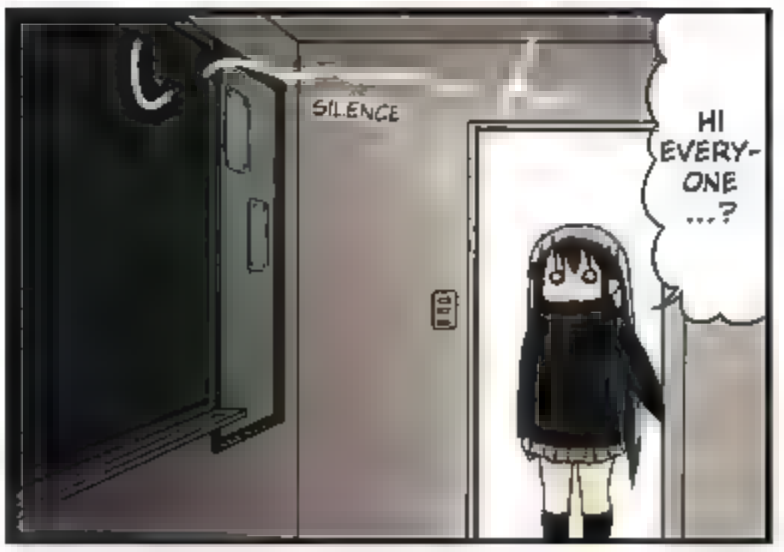
THE SAME.

AZUSA


UH?
I GUESS NO ONE'S HERE YET...


IT'S REALLY GOTTEN COLD...
UUUH ...

THERE'S SOME-THING STICKING OUT...


SILENCE
HI EVERY-ONE ...?

HEE-HEE-HEE... I'LL TELL YOU WHY!

パン PAT

BUT WHY WERE YOU SITTING THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

PAT パン

"

.....?

...WHAT A CUTE THOUGHT

LIKE THIS!! Boo!

I WAS HIDING SO I COULD JUMP OUT AND SCARE WHOEVER CAME BY!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT —!?

WAH!! MUGI-SENPAI!?

...UMM, IT'S NOT REALLY SCARY IF YOU ALREADY KNOW IT'S COMING ..

BAH!! WAH!! BOO!!

"MORN-ING"!? WERE YOU JUST SLEEP-ING...? YOU SCARED ME TO DEATH...

SLEEPYHEAD むにゃ

HMM... UNH? OH, AZUSA-CHAN. MORN-ING...

W-WAH—! YOU SCARED THE CRAP OUT OF ME! OH MY GOD!

GLOOM しょぼ

UHHH ... NO, I'M GOOD ...

I GUESS I FELL ASLEEP WITHOUT REALIZING IT

THE AFTERNOON SUN COMES IN RIGHT HERE AND IT JUST FEELS SO WARM AND COZY. WANNA JOIN ME, AZUSA-CHAN?

OKAY. IN THAT CASE, I'LL GO MAKE SOME TEA.

I...I-I'M GONNA PRACTICE GUITAR!

THEY SAID THEY'D BE LATE BECAUSE THEY'RE ON CLEAN-ING DUTY TODAY.

BAH! WAH!

SO THE OTHERS AREN'T HERE YET...?

AND HER HAIR'S SO PRETTY... THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE OF ME...

OOOH... MUGI-SENPAI'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN...

STARE

STARE

HER EYES ARE REALLY BIG TOO...

...THIS MIGHT BE THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN ALL ALONE IN THE CLUBROOM WITH MUGI-SENPAI.

...WOW. COME TO THINK OF IT...

EHH!? I...I'M SORRY!!

BWAH!! YOU'RE TOO CLOSE!!

?

UHHH! I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT FOR SOME REASON I SUD-DENLY FEEL REALLY NERVOUS ...!!

HERE. PUT THIS STRAP OVER YOUR SHOULDER LIKE SO...

OH NO, NO, NO!! I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE SAYING SORRY!!
I...I'M REALLY REALLY SORRY, OKAY...?
BADUM
BADUM

WOW... IT LOOKS REALLY GOOD ON YOU!
H-HOW DOES IT LOOK?

HUH? UM, WELL...
HEY AZUSA-CHAN, IS IT VERY HARD TO PLAY THE GUITAR?

TEE-HEE.♡

HUH!? ARE YOU SURE!?
... WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY PLAYING IT A LITTLE BIT?

... YOU'RE NOT GONNA ACTU-ALLY TRY TO PLAY IT?
SATISFIED.
HERE YOU GO. THANKS, AZUSA-CHAN

IT'S OKAY IF YOU HOLD IT NORMALLY.
CAREFUL
CAAAREFUL
TRMBL
TRMBL

MY FINGERS HURT...
STING
WHOA... DON'T HURT YOURSELF! JUST TAKE IT EASY.
STING

THE FIRST THING THAT TRIPS PEOPLE UP WHEN THEY'RE LEARNING GUITAR IS THIS F BAR CHORD.

HERE. THANK YOU. I GUESS IT REALLY IS HARD TO PLAY THE GUITAR, HUH?
YEAH, I SUPPOSE IT DOES TAKE A LOT OF PAT ENCE.

YOU HAVE TO PRESS ALL THE STRINGS DOWN WITH YOUR POINTER FINGER, BUT IT'S REALLY HARD.

BUT AZUSA-CHAN, YOU'RE AMAZING AT IT!! YOU MAKE IT LOOK SO EASY!!
C-COME ON... I-I'M NOT THAT GOOD...

JA.ALALANG

BUT NOW I SEE...THE KEY TO PLAYING THE GUITAR IS HOW MUCH PAIN YOU CAN TAKE...
HWOHHH..
NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
AND WHY DO YOU SAY IT WITH THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE?

SO CUTE.
CHNK
CH-KNK
HRNNNG.
HRNNNG.

I GUESS YOU CAUGHT ME RED-HANDED. I WAS TAKING NIBBLES HERE AND THERE...
THANK YOU
JUST HOLD STILL.

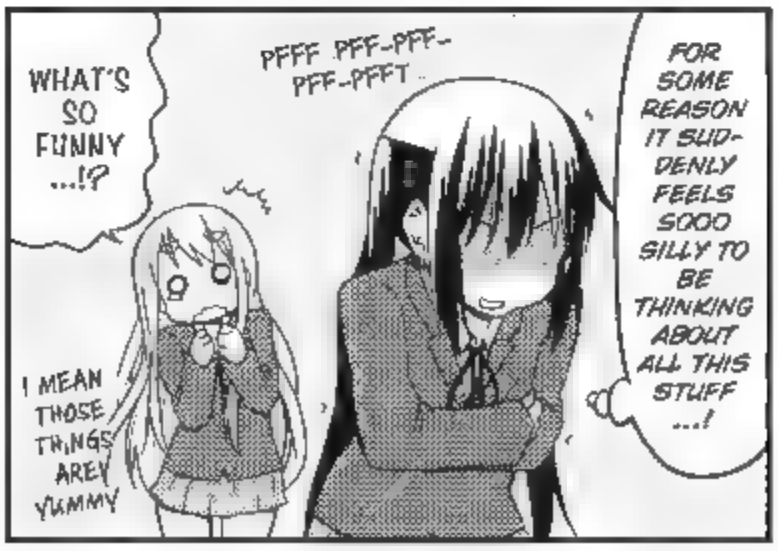
OH, THANK YOU SO MUCH.
HERE, AZUSA-CHAN

HEE-HEE.
... SOME TIMES. ♡
WHICH MEANS YOU'VE BEEN DOING THAT THIS WHOLE TIME .?

SHE SEEMS MORE LIKE THE TYPE WHO'D BE IN THE CHOIR CLUB OR SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I WONDER WHY MUGI-SENPAI'S EVEN IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB.

BPFFFT!

HUH!? NO!! I MEAN ...!!
YOU'RE MAKING ME SELF-CONSCIOUS.
WH-WHY DO YOU KEEP STAR-ING AT ME LIKE THAT? DO I HAVE SOMETHING ON MY FACE?


WHAT'S SO FUNNY ...!?
PFFF PFF-PFF-PFF-PFFT
FOR SOME REASON IT SUD-DENLY FEELS SOOO SILLY TO BE THINKING ABOUT ALL THIS STUFF ...!
I MEAN THOSE THINGS ARE YUMMY

EH!? WHERE!? WHERE!?
... YOU'VE GOT A LITTLE CREAM ON YOUR CHEEK THERE ...

MWUGI CHWAN, THE CWAKE IS WEALLY YUMMY TODAY TOO. ♡

REALLY? I'M GLAD!

STAAAAAIRE

MUGI-SENPAI ALWAYS PERKS UP WHEN IT GETS TO BE TEA TIME...

いそがしい BUSY

ガラッ SLIDE

ドサ KAFWUMP

WAAAH_!

ドサッ KAFWUMP

...WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU GLYS DOING?

IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, SHE SAID HER FAMILY'S EVEN GOT A BUTLER...

I GUESS AT HOME SHE'S ALWAYS THE ONE BEING SERVED TEA...

WHAT AZUSA PICTURES

YOU GUYS! NEXT TIME DON'T SNEAK AROUND OUTSIDE, COME IN LIKE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO!!

WE WERE SPYIN'!!

OH, NOTHIN'... IT WAS JUST INTERESTING WATCHIN' YOU TWO TOGETHER.

IF THE KOTOBUKI HOUSEHOLD EVER GOT A LOOK AT THIS SCENE, THERE'D BE HELL TO PAY...

OH! COMING RIGHT UP!

MUGI-CHAN! WHERE'S MY TEA?

WHAT IS THAT? A COMPLIMENT? A PUT-DOWN? ...!?

...BUT I HAFTA ADMIT, I WAS REALLY RELIEVED TO SEE YOUR FACE, RITSU-SENPAI.

BYE-BYE!

OH SURE. IT WAS NOTHING.

OKAY GUYS, I THINK I'LL HEAD HOME NOW. OH, AND AZUSA-CHAN... THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME PLAY YOUR GUITAR!

DO YOU HAVE TO SHOUT IT?

AHH!! IT'S COLD !!

..THE ONLY REASON YOU WERE SPYING WAS 'COS YOU THOUGHT IT WAS FUNNY..

SO? AREN'CHA GLAD YOU'RE BETTER FRIENDS WITH MUGI NOW? ALL THANKS TO US.

HUH? NO...NOT REALLY. I CAN'T SAY I'VE EVER PAID MUCH ATTENTION TO HER BACK-GROUND.

YUI-SENPAI, HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE AT MUGI-SENPAI'S HOUSE?

WAIT, MUGI-SENPAI!! I HAVE A GUITAR I'M NOT USING AT HOME, SO IF YOU WANNA BORROW IT...

BUT SHE'S RIGHT. TODAY I LEARNED ALL KINDS OF CUTE THINGS ABOUT MUGI-SENPAI...!

.....

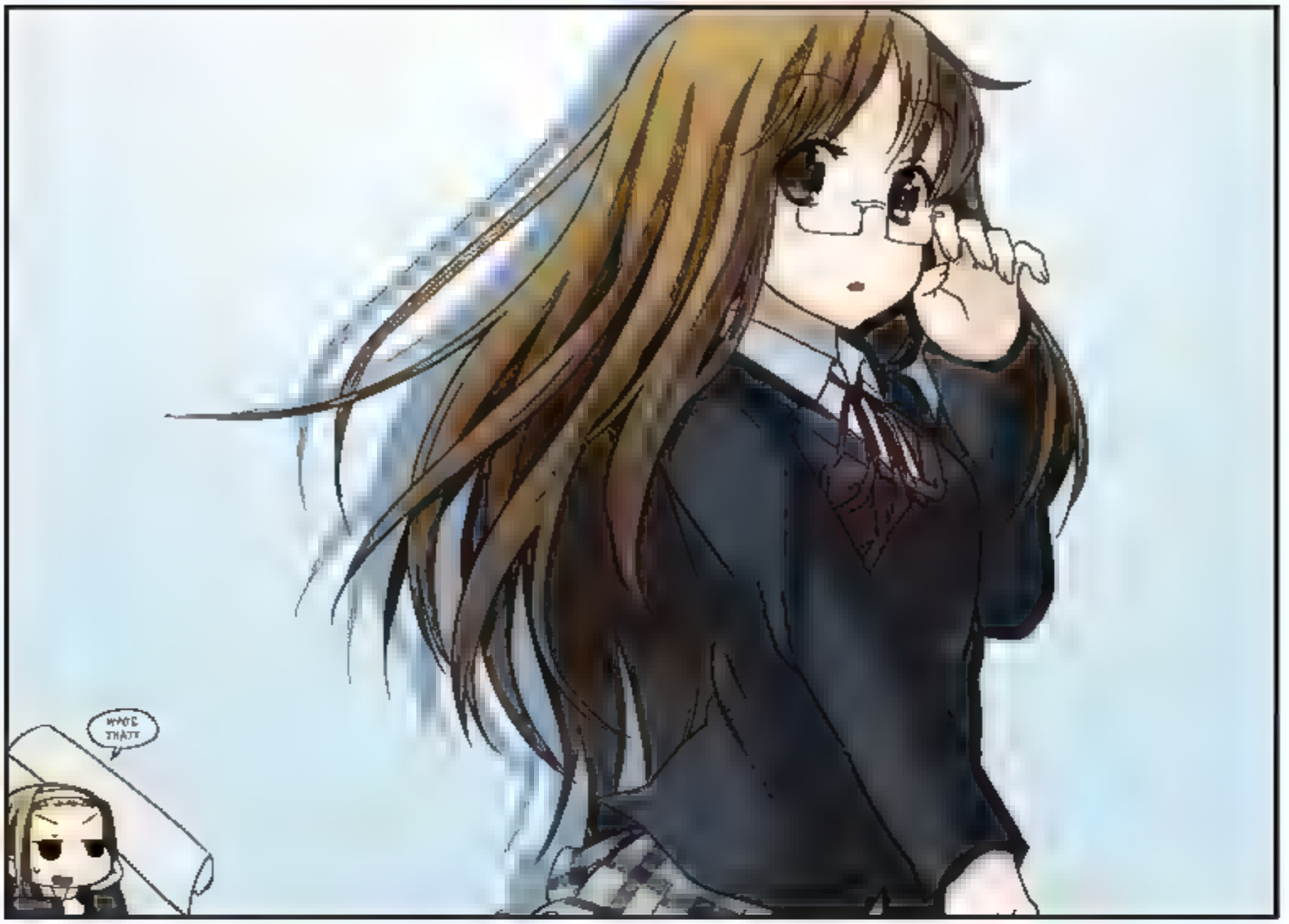
I MEAN, MUGI-CHAN'S JUST OUR MUGI-CHAN! RIGHT?

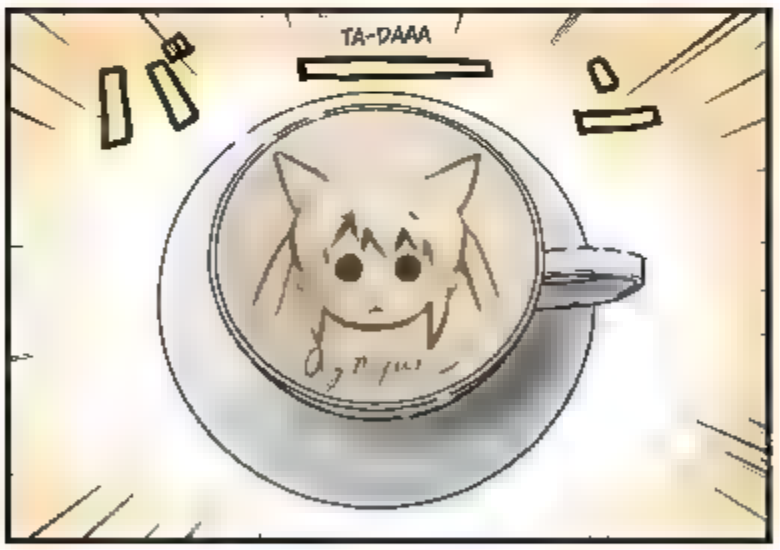
..BUT SHE'S STILL A MYSTERY IN SO MANY WAYS.

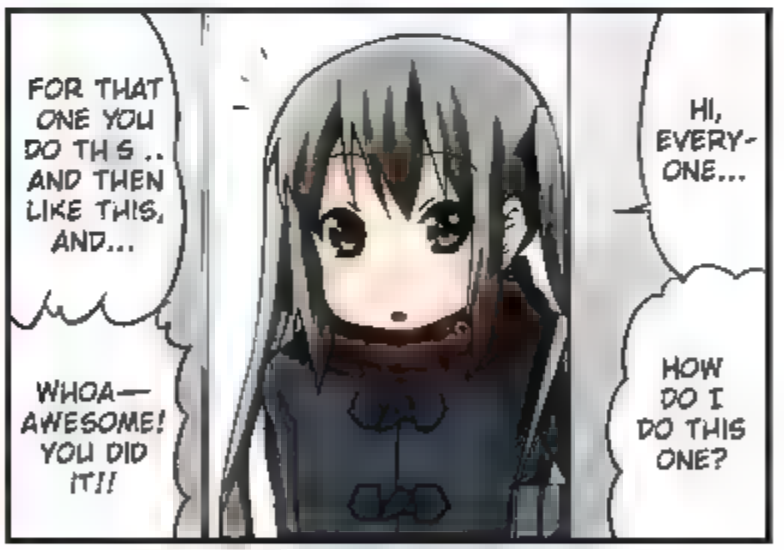
...OH. SHE'S ALREADY GONE...

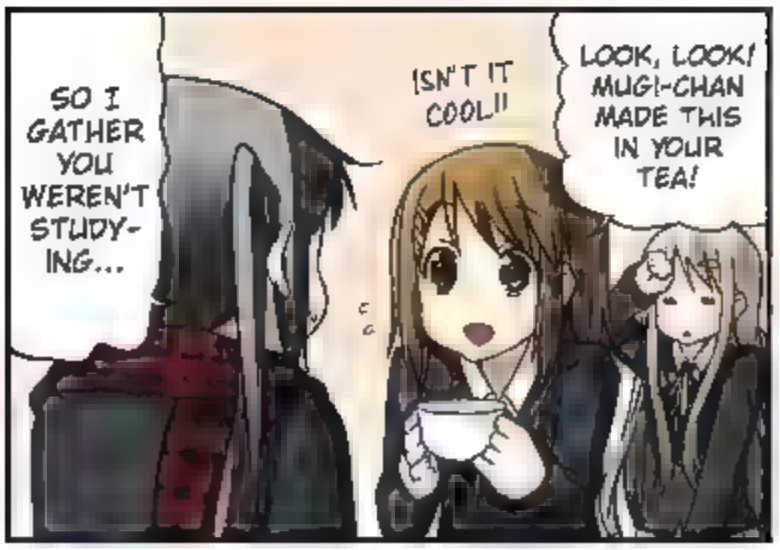
...I CAN'T BELIEVE I WAS MOVED FOR A SECOND...

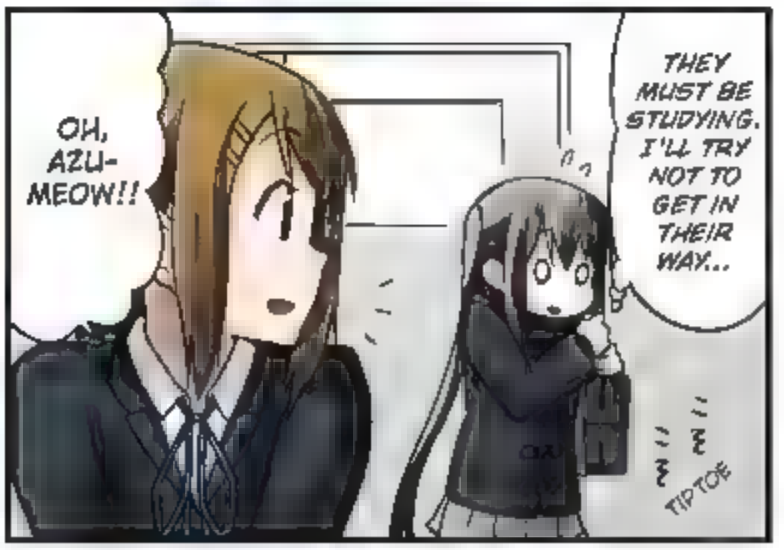
OOH, I WONDER WHAT SNACKS MUGI-CHAN'S GONNA BRING FOR US TOMOR-ROW! ♡


WHAT'S THAT?


TA-DAAA


HI, EVERY-ONE...
HOW DO I DO THIS ONE?
FOR THAT ONE YOU DO TH S .. AND THEN LIKE THIS, AND...
WHOA— AWESOME! YOU DID IT!!


SO I GATHER YOU WEREN'T STUDY-ING...
ISN'T IT COOL!!
LOOK, LOOK! MUGI-CHAN MADE THIS IN YOUR TEA!


OH, AZU-MEOW!!
THEY MUST BE STUDYING. I'LL TRY NOT TO GET IN THEIR WAY...
TIPTOE

I CAN'T BE THE ONE TO TELL YOU.

WH-WHAT HAP-PENED —!?

I SET THAT ONE OUT FOR SAWAKO-SENSEI, BUT...

HEY, WHOSE TEA IS THIS ONE?

SHE'S JUST HOME SICK WITH A COLD.

MI... MIO-SENPAI ...??

OH! THAT'S RIGHT!

HEY, HEY. DIDYA FORGET THAT TODAY SAWA-CHAN—

YAAAY... OUR LITTLE PRANK WORKED PERFECT-LY!

PUFF

.....
.....

HUH? WHAT'S GOING ON WITH SENSEI?

I'M SORRY! I'LL CLEAN THIS UP RIGHT AWAY.

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK.

THAT IS ONE IMPRESSIVE MUSTACHE

BUT IT'S KINDA WEIRD TO THINK OF SAWA-CHAN WITH A COLD, HUH?

WHAT —!? WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!?

...SHE WAS SUCH A GOOD PERSON.

LOOKS LIKE IT

WE'RE REALLY GONNA DO THIS...?

ALL RIGHT! LET'S GO!!

I GOT 'EM TO TELL ME HER ADDRESS!

EHH ...?

I KNOW!! LET'S ALL GO OVER TO SAWA-CHAN-SENSEI'S PLACE FOR A GET-WELL VISIT!!

YEAH, I REALLY AM.

AREN'T YOU TOTALLY CURIOUS WHAT SAWA-CHAN'S PLACE IS LIKE?

NOT TO MENTION T'D BE A PAIN IN THE ASS..

NWUMMMM

WE CAN'T ALL GO. WE'D JUST BE BOTHERING HER.

YEAH, LIKE MAYBE THE DOORBELL RING IS DEATH METAL OR SOMETHING!

"SCREW YOU!!"

JUMP

YOU THINK IT'S MAYBE GONNA HAVE, LIKE, SOME KINDA ROCK THEME?

WHAT'S WRONG, RIT-CHAN? NOT INTERESTED...? IN WHAT SAWA-CHAN DOES. AT. HOME.

WHAT KIND OF HOUSE WOULD HAVE THAT..?

I SO CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IT. ♡

MWEHHHH...?

HEY! GET IT IN GEAR, YOU GUYS! WE GOTTA GET MOVIN' RIGHT NOW!!

IF THE ADDRESS YUI GOT FOR US IS RIGHT, THEN IT SHOULD BE THIS APARTMENT BUILDING HERE, BUT...

TUG

HOLD ON A SEC, RITSU!

BUT THERE'S STILL THE POSSIBILITY OF A BOYFRIEND!

...IT'S COMPLETELY ORDINARY.

I REALLY THINK WE'LL JUST BE A BOTHER IF WE SHOW UP AT HER HOUSE LIKE THIS ...

GASP!

GASP!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TRYIN' TO DO TO ME, MIO!?

YES? ...HUH? WHAT ARE YOU GIRLS DOING HERE...?

ピンポーン DING! DONG-!

AHHH~ I MAY NOT HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT~ ♡

HOW ARE YOU, MY SAWAKO?

THINK ABOUT IT WHAT IF SHE'S GOT A BOYFRIEND THERE OR SOMETHING? THAT'D BE AWKWARD...

WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

MESSY HAIR

SWEATS

...YEAH, SHE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE'S GOT A BOYFRIEND IN THERE...

YOU TOO, MUGI !!?

HURRY, EVERYONE! RUN!! RUN!!

SPRINT

SO WANNA SEE THAT!

EVEN THE INSIDE'S COMPLETELY ORDINARY.

'CEPT IT'S MESSY

.....
.....

OH! YOU GIRLS CAME OVER TO PAY ME A GET-WELL VISIT...?

WE'RE SORRY TO DROP BY UNANNOUNCED WE WERE JUST WONDERING HOW YOU'RE FEELING.

WELL, I AM SOOOO SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU...

LAAAAME.

I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I'VE STILL GOT ONE STEP TO GO BEFORE I'M COMPLETELY RECOVERED.

WOW, YOUR VOICE STILL SOUNDS PRETTY HOARSE.

I HAD ONE THIS MORNING, BUT IT'S GONE DOWN NOW.

I'M FINE, I'M FINE.

SENSEI, DO YOU HAVE A FEVER?

ビクッ JUMP

YUI AND RITSU'S WE-REALLY-WANNA-SEE-INSIDE AURA

...BUT I THINK I FEEL A SPIKE COMING ON...

WHOA.. SEXY!

CHECK IT OUT! I JUST FOUND ONE OF SAWA-CHAN'S OLD STAGE COSTUMES !!

WHOA-WHOA-WHOA-WHOA!! WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE STARTIN' TO GET BETTER, THAT'S THE MOST DANGEROUS TIME OF ALL!!

A-ACTUALLY. I'M COMPLETELY WELL AT THIS POINT!! FEELING PERFECT! YOU GIRLS DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME ANYMORE!! BUH-BYE NOW.

ガクー
SLUMP
YAAAY
I WON.

SOME-HOW I GET THE FEEL-ING IT'S GONNA GET BETTER AS SOON AS YOU GIRLS LEAVE.
IF YOU'VE GOT A FEVER, YOU SHOULD LIE DOWN IN BED!!

EVEN THOUGH YOU CAME CRYIN' TO US FOR HELP.
IT'S GONNA BE FINE! WHEN UI GOT SICK AND I WAS LOOKING AFTER HER, I TOTALLY MADE POR-RIDGE!

OH MY GOOD-NESS! YOU'D MAKE SOME-THING FOR ME?
WE BOUGHT SOME INGREDIENTS ON THE WAY HERE.
SENSEI, ARE YOU HUNGRY AT ALL? DO YOU WANT ME TO MAKE YOU SOME-THING TO EAT?

UMM... YOU KNOW, YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE TO BE THAT GUNG HO ABOUT IT...
OKAY! HERE'S WHERE I SHOW YOU I MEAN BUSI-NESS!

EH!?
ALL RIGHT... ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS DECIDES WHO GETS WHICH NURSING DUTIES FOR SAWA-CHAN!!

WILL I BE ABLE TO GO TO SCHOOL TOMOR-ROW...?
BANG
SLAM
CRASH

PLEASE LET IT BE MUGI-CHAN! PLEASE LET IT BE MUGI-CHAN!!
ONE! TWO!
HERE GOES. FIRST ROUND DECIDES WHO COOKS!

YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY PHOTOGENIC, HUH?

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?

Yamanaka, Sawako

SAWA-CHAN, YOU LOOK SO YOUNG!!

I'M STILL YOUNG, GODDAMMIT!!

SEE?

HMM. CAN'T SAY MUCH FOR THE WAY IT LOOKS... BUT IT ACTUALLY TASTES PRETTY GOOD.

OH, OF COURSE! IT WAS A BLAST.

WAS IT REALLY FUN WHEN YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS WERE IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB?

OH, THANK YOU!

SENSEI, THE DISHES ARE ALL DONE.

YES, THE VERY SAME! AND JUST BETWEEN YOU GIRLS AND ME, HE WEARS A TOUPEE.

GIGGLE!

WHAT? YOU MEAN THE ONE WHO TEACHES CLASSICAL LITERATURE?

HORIGOME-SENSEI

GIGGLE!

UNFORTUNATELY, THAT HORIGOME-SENSEI HAD IT IN FOR US...

NO WAY—!!

OH, THIS IS TOO MUCH, YOU GUYS. I WISH I COULD GET YOU TO COME OVER AND DO MY HOUSEWORK EVERY DAY, AND NOT JUST WHEN I'M SICK. HEE-HEE!

BLUSH

TH... THE LAUNDRY'S DONE TOO.

THERE WERE BLACK PANTIES IN THERE. .

...WELL, I DON'T THINK THERE'S BEEN A PRECEDENT FOR BRINGING IN YOUR OWN TEA SET.

COMPARED TO WHAT YOU USED TO DO, SAWA-CHAN, ALL THE CRAP WE PULL SEEMS LIKE KIDS' STUFF.

BUT I WANT YOU OUT OF HERE THIS INSTANT.

FOUND IT!! SAWA-CHAN'S OLD YEARBOOK!!

HERE I AM! SAWAKO'S BACK! ♡

AFTER SCHOOL THE NEXT DAY

THANKS FOR HAVING US!

ALL RIGHT, GIRLS. STAY SAFE ON YOUR WAY HOME.

WAIT... WHAT'S GOING ON? YOU'RE HERE ALL BY YOURSELF?

WELCOME BACK

OH... SENSEI!

WHAT'S THIS?

It's so boring without you Sawa-chan. (Yui)
We took care of you, so give us more club money!! (Ritsu)
I hope you get well soon. (Mio)
They say it's going to get cold tonight! (Azusa)
I'll be waiting for you in the clubroom with tea in hand. (Tsumugi)

WHEW... I STILL DON'T KNOW IF THEY CAME OVER TO TAKE CARE OF ME OR JUST TO HANG OUT...

EHH!? I'M SUCH A BAD TEACHER... I CAN'T BELIEVE I MADE EVERYONE SICK.. !

UI-CHAN TOLD ME AZUSA-CHAN'S HOME SICK TODAY TOO

...ACTUALLY, EVERYONE WENT HOME EARLY BECAUSE THEY'VE ALL GOT COLDS.

OH, WAIT A SEC-OND?

.WHEN I'M WITH THOSE GIRLS, I JUST CAN'T HELP ACTING LIKE MY OLD HIGH SCHOOL SELF AGAIN...

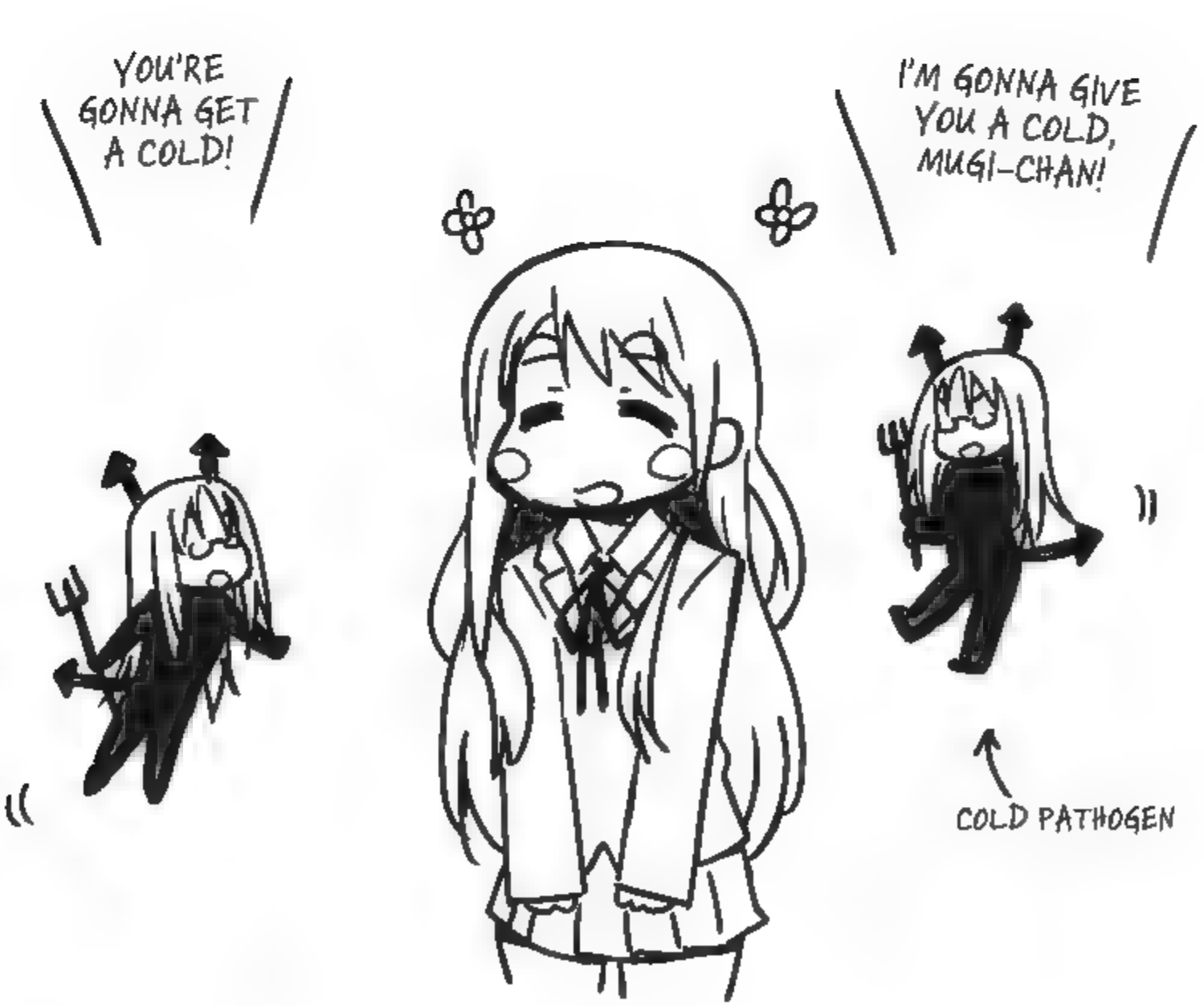
I'LL GO MAKE US SOME TEA ☆

...BUT I WONDER HOW THIS GIRL MANAGED TO ESCAPE THE BUG.

?

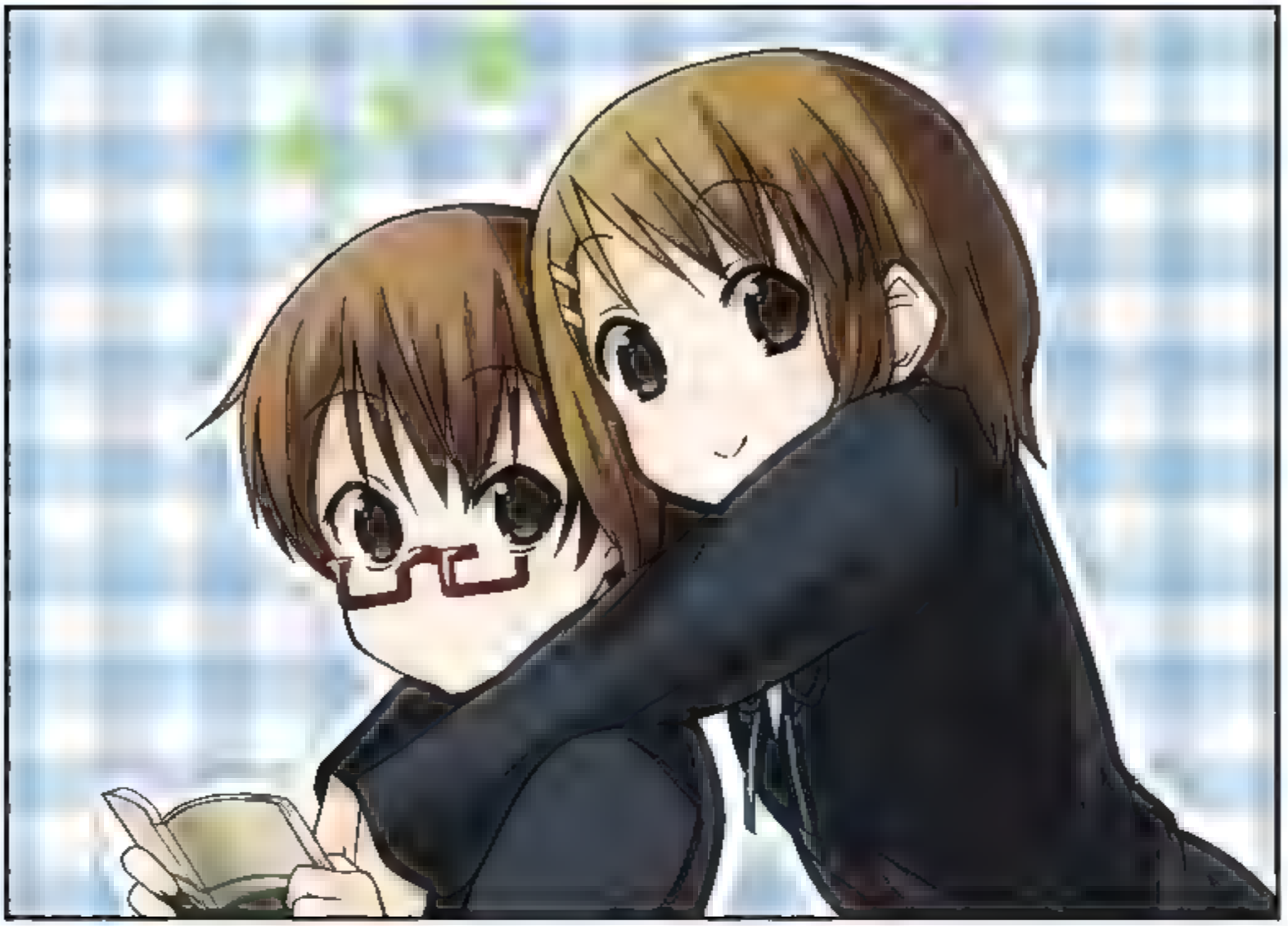
AAACHOO!!

I THINK I'M OVER MY COLD NOW.

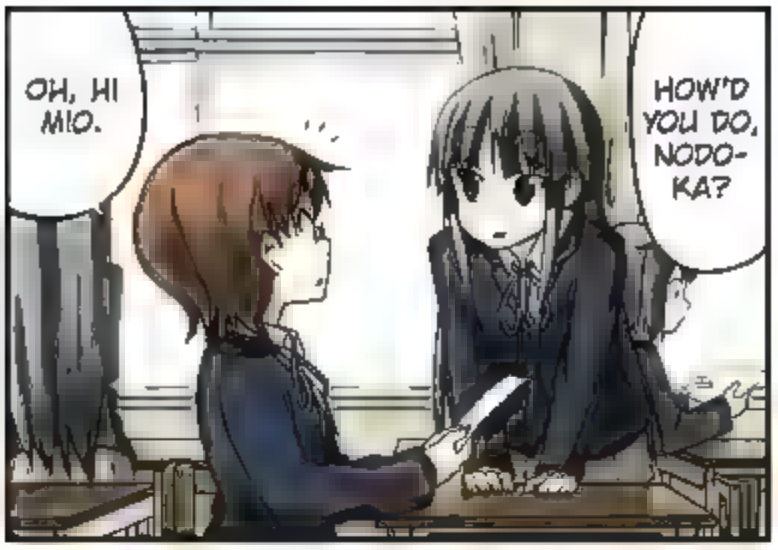

YOU'RE GONNA GET A COLD!
I'M GONNA GIVE YOU A COLD, MUGI-CHAN!
COLD PATHOGEN

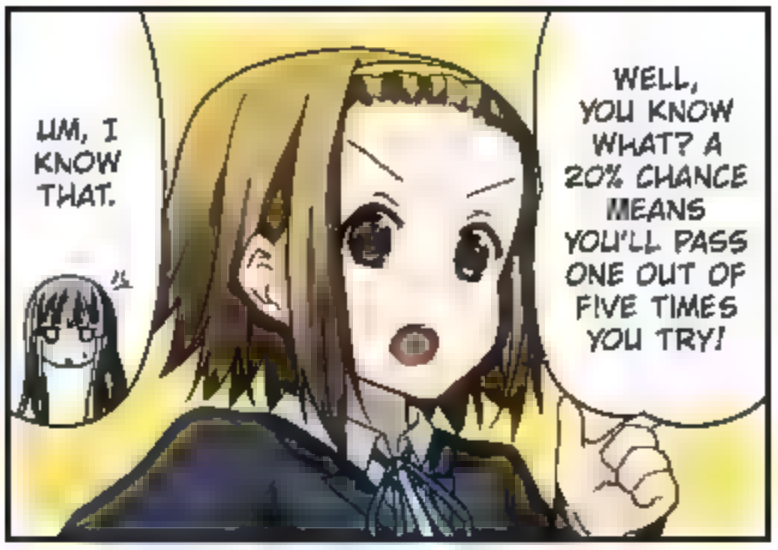
YOU SURE KNOW A LOT ABOUT THIS.

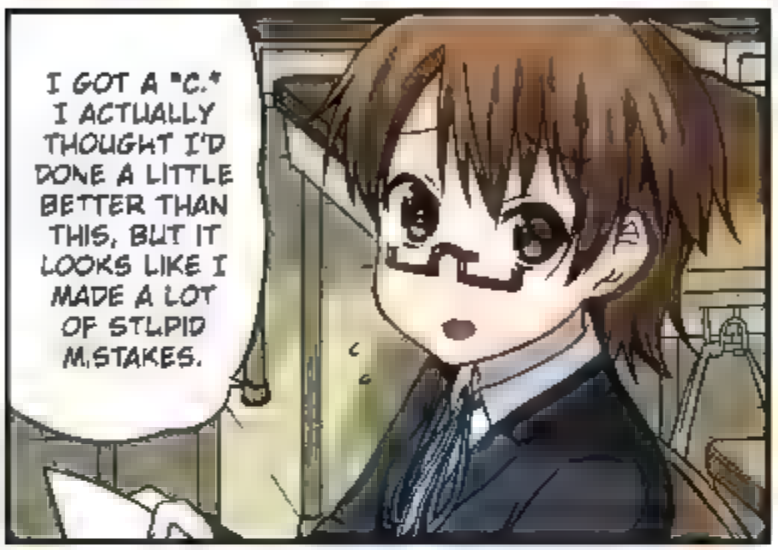
GWUGH_!! THE COMBINED ANTIMICROBIAL EFFECT OF LACTIC ACID FERMENTATION AND THE PRESENCE OF BETA-CARBOLINE ALKALOIDS FORMED IN REACTION WITH THE ALLYL ISOTHIOCYANATE IN THE DAIKON RADISHES USED TO MAKE HER TAKUAN PICKLES IS PREVENTING ME FROM GETTING IN CLOSE!!

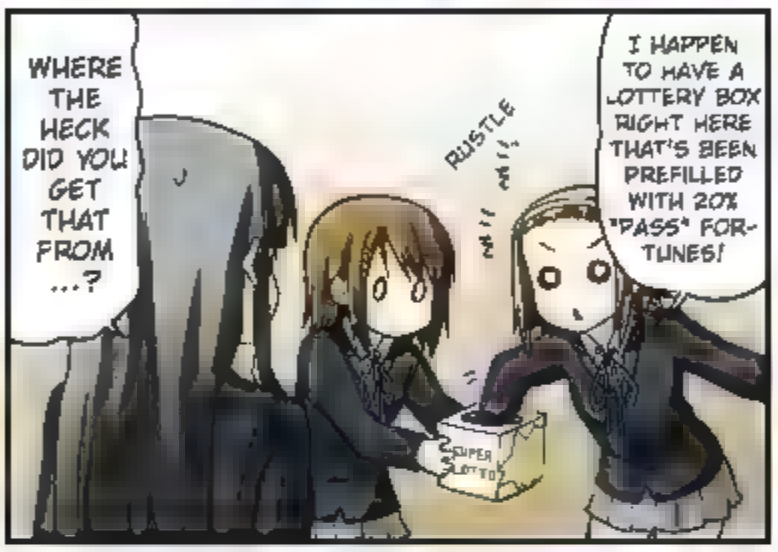


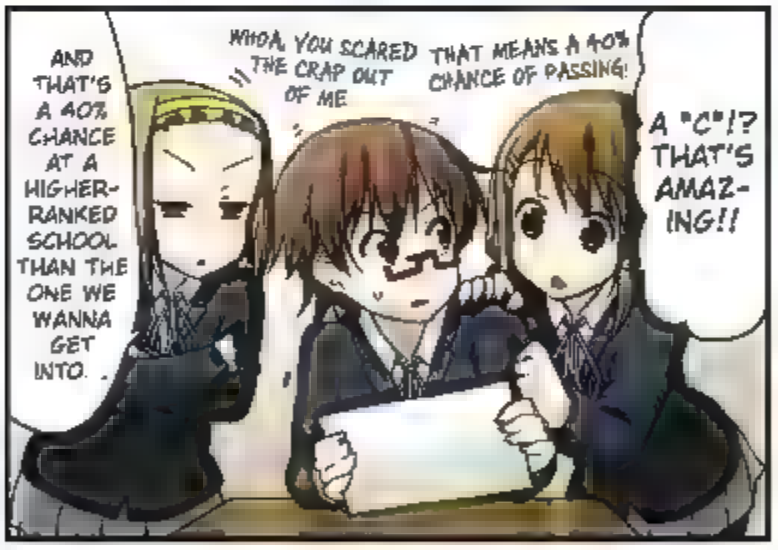
GEEZ, YOU TWO... A "D" ISN'T ANYTHING TO BE HAPPY ABOUT. IT MEANS YOU'VE ONLY GOT A 20% CHANCE OF PASSING THE REAL EXAM.
WHOA! ME TOO!
WOW! WE'RE AT THE SAME LEVEL!!
OKAAAAY—
OKAY, EVERY-ONE. I'M HANDING BACK THE RESULTS OF YOUR LAST PRACTICE TEST.
WHAT DO VIEWER RATINGS HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING . . ?
THAT'S RIGHT! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW HARD IT IS TO GET 20% VIEWER RATINGS!?
HEY! 20%'S NOTH-ING TO SNEEZE AT!!
I GOT A "D."
BUZZ
BUZZ
HOW'D YOU DO, YUI?

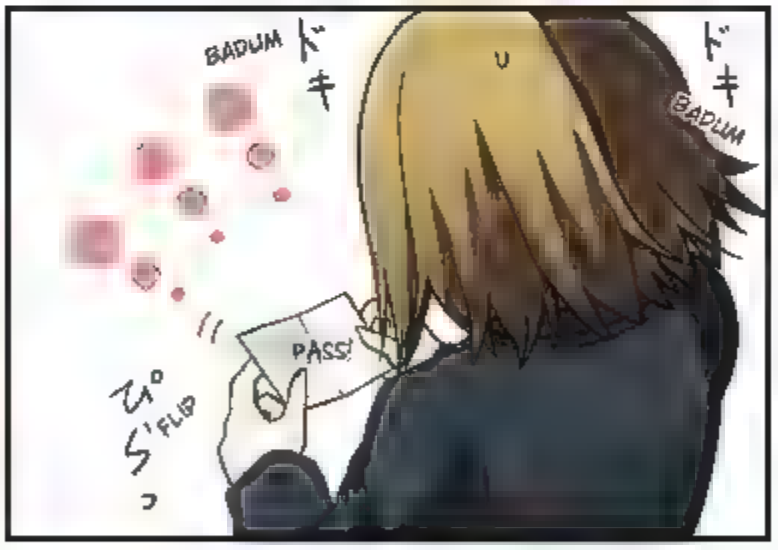

OH, HI MIO.
HOW'D YOU DO, NODO-KA?

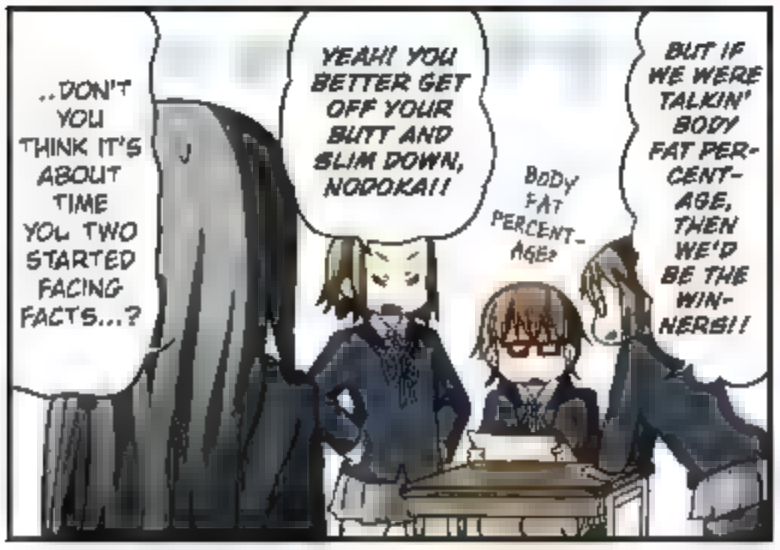

UM, I KNOW THAT.
WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT? A 20% CHANCE MEANS YOU'LL PASS ONE OUT OF FIVE TIMES YOU TRY!

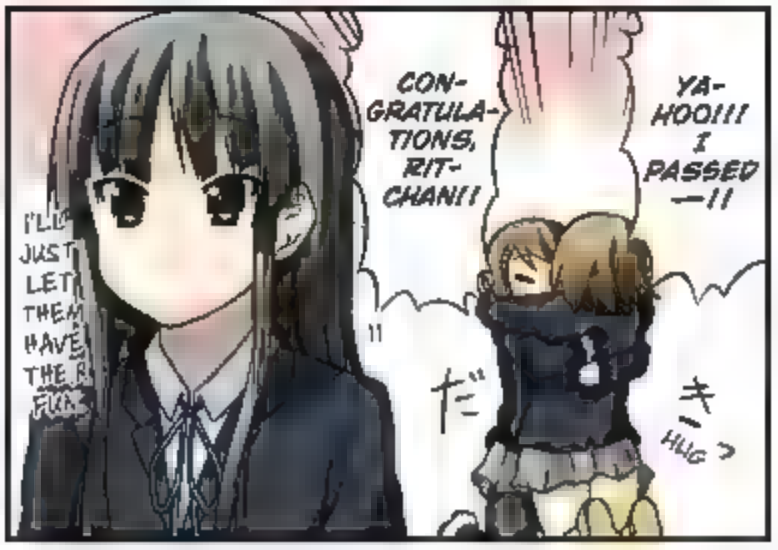

I GOT A "C." I ACTUALLY THOUGHT I'D DONE A LITTLE BETTER THAN THIS, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I MADE A LOT OF STUPID MISTAKES.


WHERE THE HECK DID YOU GET THAT FROM ...?
RUSTLE
I HAPPEN TO HAVE A LOTTERY BOX RIGHT HERE THAT'S BEEN PREFILLED WITH 20% "PASS" FORTUNES!
SUPER LOTTO


AND THAT'S A 40% CHANCE AT A HIGHER-RANKED SCHOOL THAN THE ONE WE WANNA GET INTO.
WHOA, YOU SCARED THE CRAP OUT OF ME
THAT MEANS A 40% CHANCE OF PASSING!
A "C"!? THAT'S AMAZ-ING!!


BADUM
ドキ
BADUM
PASS!
ピラッ FLIP


..DON'T YOU THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU TWO STARTED FACING FACTS...?
YEAH! YOU BETTER GET OFF YOUR BUTT AND SLIM DOWN, NODOKA!!
BODY FAT PERCENT-AGE?
BUT IF WE WERE TALKIN' BODY FAT PER-CENT-AGE, THEN WE'D BE THE WIN-NERS!!


I'LL JUST LET THEM HAVE THE R FLR.
CON-GRATULA-TIONS, RIT-CHAN!!
YA-HOO!!! I PASSED —!!
だ
HUG

WELL I'M GOING TO THE CLUBROOM, SO..HEY! KNOCK IT OFF, RITSU! LET GO OF ME!!

OH....UM, OKAY.

OH, SO MUGI-CHAN .. WE'RE NOT GONNA COME TO THE CLUBROOM TODAY, OKAY?

SEE YA TOMORROW MUGI!!

CHANGING HER TUNE AT THE DROP OF A HAT LIKE ALWAYS!!

NODOKA-CHAN! TEACH MEEEE!!

SEE YOU GUYS LATER

てくてく TMP

てくてく TMP

IT'LL BE A GOOD REVIEW FOR ME TOO

YOU MEAN IT!?

SURE... OKAY. SHOULD WE HAVE A STUDY SESSION TONIGHT AT YOUR HOUSE, THEN?

OH, MUGI-SENPAI! HOW ARE YO—

ガラッ SLIDE

THAT IS NOT GONNA WORK ON ME! IF YOU DON'T DO IT YOURSELF, YOU'RE NEVER GONNA RETAIN IT...

RITSU'S PLEASE-TEACH-ME-TOO AURA

じ STARE

NGYUH!?

HUG だき

PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO ME!!

AZUSA-CHAN !!

YUI, THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!!

じ STARE X2 ×2

STOP LOOKING AT ME!

OH THANKS, UI.

I BROUGHT YOU GUYS SOME TEA AND SNACKS.

びしっ SALUTE

I'M READY TO START, MANABE-SENSE!!

ALL RIGHT, SHALL WE BEGIN?

TMP

WHICH ONE?

NODOKA-CHAN, I DON'T GET THIS PROB-LEM.

UM, LESSEE... CLASSES AT SCHOOL!

SO WHAT'S YOUR WORST SUB-JECT?

...SOOO ...I'M GUESS-ING THAT MEANS ALL OF THEM?

...I SWEAR, ARE YOU SURE THE TWO OF YOU DIDN'T COME OUT IN THE WRONG ORDER?

OH, YOU'RE RIGHT!

YOU CAN JUST PROVE THAT ONE BY CONTRA-DICTION, CAN'T YOU?

UNFOR-TUNATELY, MUSIC'S NOT ON THE EXAMS...

JA-JANG

NO, I'M GOOD AT MUSIC!!

FOR CRYING OUT LOUD, YUI, YOU'RE THE BIG SISTER. SHOW A LITTLE SELF-RESPECT.

WHAT IS IT, WITTLE YUI-CHAN?

ONEE-CHAN! ♡

AND... WE'RE MOVING THE HEATED TABLE NOW...

DRAG

DRAG

I'M ALSO GOOD AT SLEEPING...

DWEH!!
NO-DOKA-CHAA-AAAN!!

HM?
STARE

PURR
PURR
PURR
MMM! ♡
SHEESH .. SO WHAT HAPPENED TO STUDY-ING, YOU GUYS?

WHOA, WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, UI? YOU USUALLY CALL ME "NODOKA-SAN"...
YEE-HEE-HEE! NODOKA-CHAN! ♡
HUG

YOU USED TO MOB ME AND HANG ALL OVER ME, ONLY TO FALL ASLEEP ON ME THE SECOND THINGS CALMED DOWN.
HEH-HEH-HEH. BEING TOGETHER LIKE THIS REALLY BRINGS BACK MEMORIES, HUH?

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE THE THREE OF US HUNG OUT, HUH?
IT'S HARD TO CALL YOU "NODOKA-CHAN" AT SCHOOL AND STUFF, WITH EVERYONE AROUND...

ZZZ ZZZ
ZZZZZZZ
...AND I CAN SEE SOME THINGS DON'T CHANGE...

Y-YUI... YOU STOP THAT RIGHT NOW!
INCH
INCH

EH!? YOU'RE REALLY NOT GONNA HELP ME STUDY!?
OKAY, SEE YOU LATER.
MEANWHILE

OH CRAP...I GUESS I MUST'VE FALLEN ASLEEP TOO.
UH_!

OH HELLO, MIO-CHAN. I SEE YOU'RE HOME.
MOM
HI MOMMY.
WHATEVER.
YOU'RE SO CRUEL—!! YOU'RE THE DEVIL—!! YOU'RE INHUMAN —!!

...ACTUALLY STUDY-ING...!
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
YUI..... SHE'S...

ガ
KA-CHK
チャ
OH, THAT REMINDS ME— I WAS AIRING OUT YOUR ROOM TODAY...
MOM

MAYBE SHE DOESN'T NEED MY HELP ANYMORE AFTER ALL.
...I GUESS WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, YUI REALLY DOES WORK HARD AND DOES THINGS ON HER OWN.

.....
OKAY
.....
THIS IS THE SECOND FLOOR
...SO BE SURE TO CLOSE THE WINDOW, OKAY?
MOM

THIS PAIR OF SISTERS, I SWEAR...THEY JUST REEEALLY LOVE SNUGGLING UP TO PEOPLE...
COO~ D
...NOT THAT I COULD, SINCE I CAN'T EVEN MOVE RIGHT NOW..

HUH?

SO THE PERSON THEY'RE TALKING TO MUST BE THE EMPEROR...

...RIGHT, AND THIS PART HERE IS HUMBLE LANGUAGE...

HERE!

SIGH... ALL RIGHT. LEMME SEE YOUR TEST RESULTS, THEN.

I GIVE UP

YOU WIN

THAT IS A MOST UNKIND WAY OF PUTTING IT, MIO-SAN.

IS THIS AN OMEN OF SOME GREAT CATACLYSM?

...BUT HONESTLY, I'M AMAZED TO SEE YOU THIS MOTIVATED, RITSU.

YEAH... FOR SOME REASON, I WAS ABLE TO SOLVE ALL THE ONES WHERE YOU HELPED ME BEFORE.

HUH. YOU'RE ACTUALLY PRETTY GOOD IN SOME AREAS.

SO WOULDN'T IT JUST SUCK IF WE ALL HAD TO GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS?

BUT SERIOUSLY.. WE'RE SUCH GOOD FRIENDS WITH YUI AND MUGI NOW, AND THERE MIGHT BE A CHANCE FOR ALL OF US TO GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE TOGETHER, RIGHT?

WHUH!?

YOU MUST BE A REALLY GOOD TEACHER, MIO!

H-HEY, IT'LL BE FINE... DON'T WORRY! I PROMISE I'M GONNA WORK HARD TOO!

TREMBLE

THAT WOULD WAY SUCK !!

TREMBLE

SMIRK

I'LL GO AHEAD AND TUTOR YOU SINCE YOU CLEARLY NEED IT

...VERY WELL. AND WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO TEACH YOU TODAY?

SPEAKING OF THAT, WE HAVEN'T SEEN MUCH OF MUGI LATELY. I WONDER WHAT SHE'S BEEN UP TO?

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE'VE BEEN TO THE CLUBROOM, HUH?

MAN, I JUST WANNA HURRY AND GET THERE SO I CAN EAT SOME OF MUGI'S SNACKS!

GETTING THE RESULTS OF THE NEXT PRACTICE TEST

JUST CRACK MY EYES AND TAKE A TINY PEEK

HEY—! MUGI-CHAN! AZU-MEOW! WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING!?

YUI-CHAN!

OH, SENPAI.

.....

ME TOO!!

WHOO-HOO-OOO!! I WENT UP TO A "C"—!!

MUGI-SENPAI'S A REALLY FAST LEARNER!

AZUSA-CHAN'S TEACHING ME HOW TO PLAY GUITAR.

IT JUST GOES TO SHOW... THEY REALLY CAN DO IT IF THEY SET THEIR MINDS TO IT.

...I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY IMPROVED THAT MUCH IN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME

NOW WE'VE GOT A 40% CHANCE OF PASSIN'—!!

JUST WHEN SHE'D FINALLY MANAGED TO CRAM ALL THAT STUFF IN...

SHE'S LIKE A POP—A POP PENCIL.

POP

POP

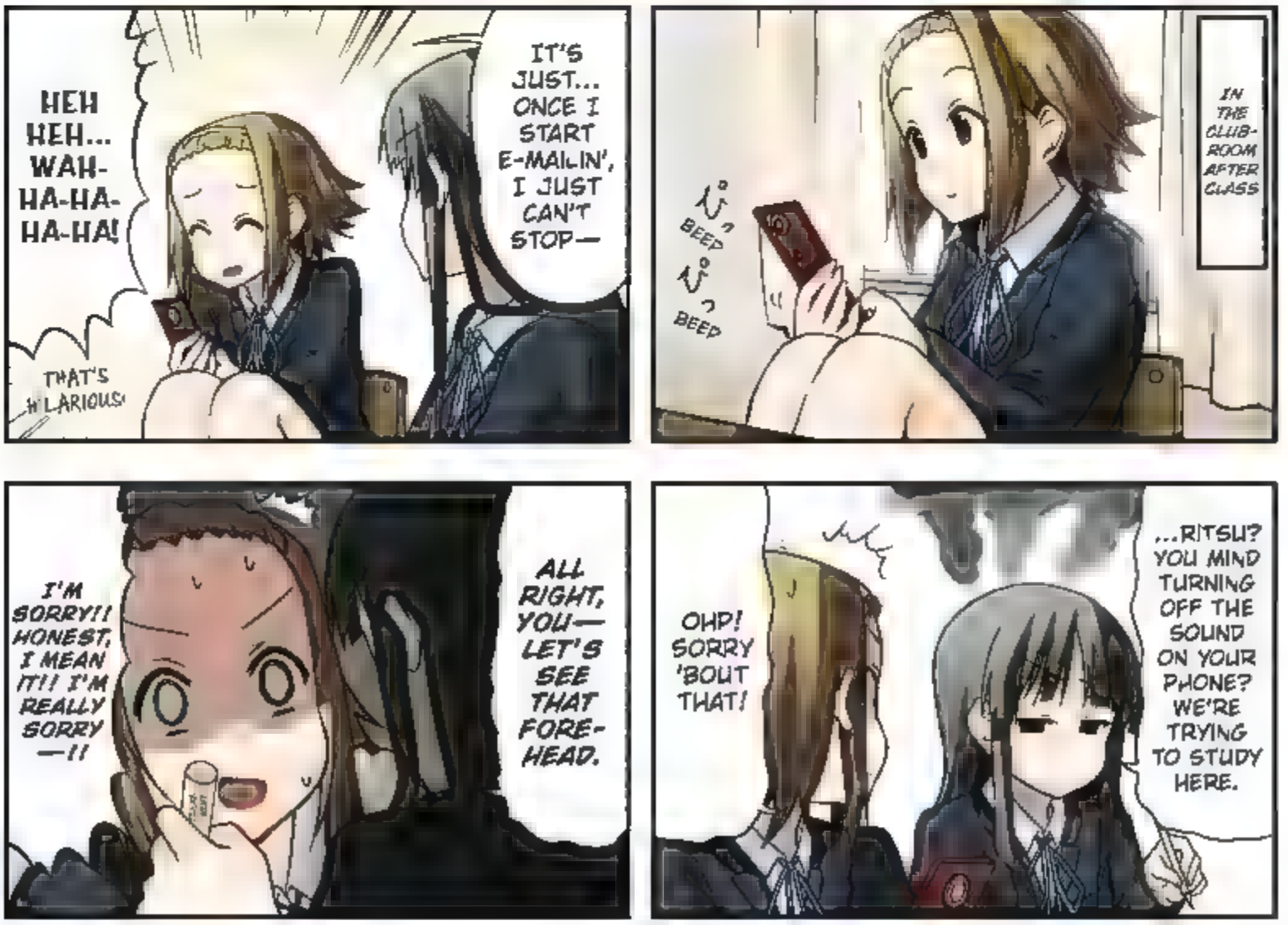
THAT'S NOT FAIR! I'M GONNA PLAY TOO, THEN!!

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO.

YEAH, I'M GOOD WITH 40%.

IN VIEWER RATINGS TERMS, 40% IS LIKE THE ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S SING-OFF, RIGHT? THAT'S HUGE.

MOTIVATION


HEH HEH... WAH-HA-HA-HA-HA!
IT'S JUST... ONCE I START E-MAILIN', I JUST CAN'T STOP—
THAT'S HILARIOUS!
IN THE CLUB-ROOM AFTER CLASS
BEEP
BEEP
I'M SORRY!! HONEST, I MEAN IT!! I'M REALLY SORRY —!!
ALL RIGHT, YOU— LET'S SEE THAT FORE-HEAD.
OHP! SORRY 'BOUT THAT!
...RITSU? YOU MIND TURNING OFF THE SOUND ON YOUR PHONE? WE'RE TRYING TO STUDY HERE.

SORRY GUYS, BUT I GOTTA RUN!

CLONK ガタッ

OH, I JUST REMEMBERED! THERE'S SOMETHIN' I GOTTA GO DO!!

WHO WERE YOU HAVING SO MUCH FUN E-MAILING WITH?

ぐすん SNIFF

FOREHEAD: FOREHEAD

I WONDER WHAT THAT WAS ALL ABOUT...

WITH THE "FOREHEAD" ST LL ON THERE..

...AND OFF SHE GOES.

そそくさ RUSH

YEAH, RIGHT. LIKE RITSU COULD HAVE A BOY-FRIEND.

WAIT, DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE GOT A BOY-FRIEND!?

EH-HEH-HEH... THAT'S A SECRET!!

LOOKS LIKE A CASTLE. PWEH-HEH-HEH!

MAYBE SHE REALLY DOES HAVE A BOY-FRIEND ...!

WHOA-HOA-HOA.

.....
.....

かぁー BLUSHHHHH

OH, MIO-SENPAI... PLEASE COME BACK TO US.

HA-HA-HA

RITSU WITH A BOY-FRIEND? THAT'S JUST RIDICU-LOUS.

ALL RIGHT... STUDY TIME! STUDY TIME!

EH!? WHA—!? WHAT'S WITH THAT REAC-TION!?

THAT NIGHT

CREAK

...I SWEAR... WHAT THE HELL'S THAT RITSU THINK-ING...?

SO RITSU-[redacted] HAS A BOY-FRIEND, HUH...?

HMMMM...

I CAN'T EVEN PICTURE WHAT HE WOULD LOOK LIKE

HERE WE ARE, RIGHT WHEN WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE STUDYING HARD FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS, AND SHE GOES OUT AND GETS HERSELF A BOYFRIEND!

FWOMP

COURSE... WE STILL DON'T KNOW FOR SURE, BUT..

STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT, MUGI.

THAT CAN'T BE IT—! THERE'S JUST NO WAY RITSU COULD HAVE A BOY-FRIEND.

SMILE

SMILE

...BUT I MEAN... HOW COME SHE DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING TO ME ABOUT IT...!?

ROLL

WHEN YOU'RE FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE, YOU TEL- EACH OTHER THAT KINDA STUFF...!

RIGHT— SHE'S SO CHEERFUL AND FUN TO BE AROUND.

EH?

EH?

...BUT YOU KNOW, RIT-CHAN REALLY IS THE KINDA GIRL THAT BOYS TEND TO LIKE, DON'CHA THINK?

... and what if today she went out on a DATE with her boyfriend? And, like... what if they KISSED and stuff...?? Raaah!!

...MIO-CHAN, CAN I GO TO SLEEP NOW?

NO. . NO, NO! YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO HAVE RELATION-SHIPS UNTIL YOU'RE BOTH MATURE ENOUGH TO HANDLE IT!

...YOU'RE SURPRIS-INGLY OLD-FASHIONED, AREN'T YOU, MIO-SENPAI?

..I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS THE BEST ADVICE OR NOT, BUT HOPE-FULLY IT WORKS OUT.

THANKS FOR THE ADVICE, NODOKA. YOU WERE A BIG HELP!

AND AFTER THAT...

UH —!!

THE NEXT DAY

WHAT THE HELL...!? MIO!?

RI!!! .. TSUUU...

SLUMP ～ん

YEAH, GOOD QUES-TION. I'M THINKING MAYBE..

OH, BUT I WAS WONDERIN' .. WHAT SHOULD I GIVE AS A PRESENT?

IT'S RI... RITSU ...

WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT SOME-THING I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HEAR?

...D-D-DID YOU HEAR US?

SHE DOESN'T REALLY HAVE A. . DOES SHE...?

...*GIVE AS A PRESENT*? WHAT'S SHE GIVING...? AND TO WHOM...?

GOOD MORNING, MIO-CHAN.

SEEING RIT-CHAN ALL SHY AND GIRLY KINDA MAKES ME SICK TO MY STOMACH.

EH —!?

TH... THIS IS JUST SOME-THING I CAN'T TELL YOU ABOUT, MIO!! I JUST CAN'T —!!

DASH!!

YOU LOOK REALLY TIRED

MIO-CHAN SURE IS FUNNY, HUH?

SNNWOOD MNNWORNING.

RI-TSUUU!! YOU CAN'T DO THIS!! MEN ARE BARBAR-IANS!!

AFTER SCHOOL

SORRY, GUYS. I GOT SOMETHIN' TO DO TODAY TOO, SO I'M TAKIN' OFF EARLY.

...NOW I'M REALLY CURIOUS WHAT'S UP WITH RITSU-SENPAI.

...I'M GONNA FOLLOW HER.

SHE'S HEADING DOWN-TOWN... EVEN THOUGH SHE HARDLY EVER COMES DOWN HERE...

SNICKER

WHAT?

I AM GONNA FOLLOW HER AND SEE FOR MYSELF WHAT KINDA GUY THIS BOY-FRIEND IS!!

AAAAND . WHILE YOU SIT THERE TALKING ABOUT IT, YOU'VE ALREADY LOST SIGHT OF HER.

EH!? OH CRAP! WE GOTTA GO LOOK FOR HER...!

...YUI-SENPAI, MUGI-SENPA... SHOULDN'T WE TRY AND STOP HER?

HURRY IT UP!! EVERYONE GET YOUR STUFF TOGETHER—WE'RE GOING!!

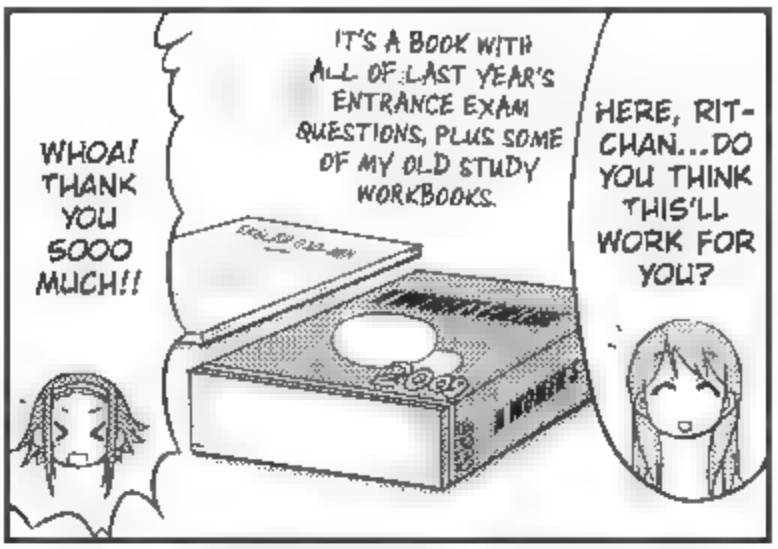
LET'S JUST SEE HOW IT PLAYS OUT. IT'S MORE FUN THIS WAY. ♪

...WAIT A... BWAAH!!

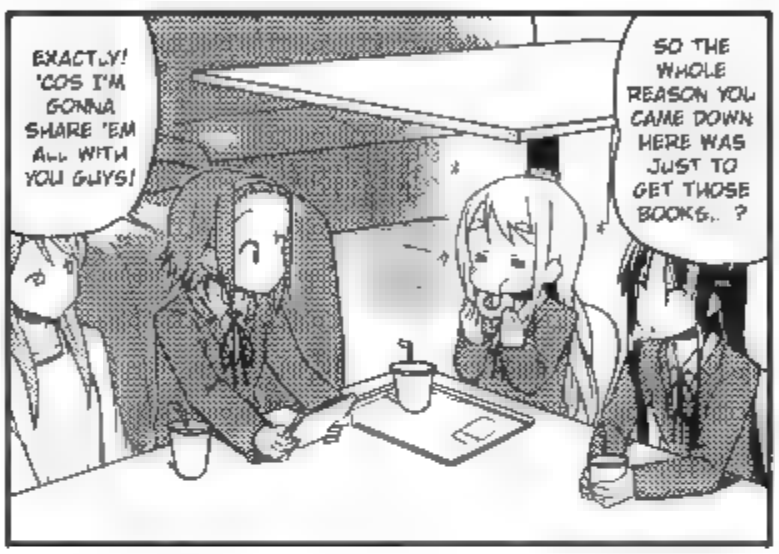
KERFLUMP

YAAAY.

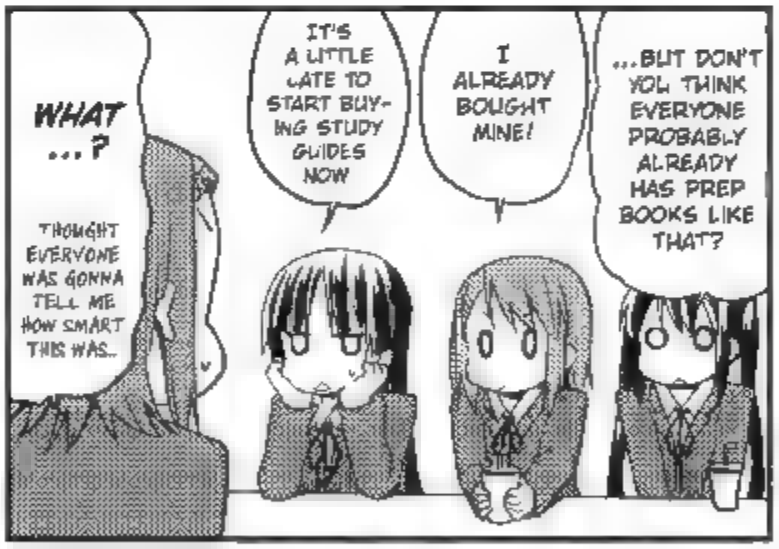
NO, I DO NOT.
AND I'M VERY SORRY
SWELL
...SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU DON'T HAVE A BOY-FRIEND?
UH... UMMM... IT...IT'S JUST 'COS...
BESIDES, WHADDAYA THINK YOU'RE DOIN', ANYWAY? FOLLOWIN' PEOPLE AROUND AND SPYIN' ON 'EM, HUH!?
EASY. 'COS I WANTED TO KEEP THE PERSON I'M GONNA MEET WITH A SECRET FROM YOU GUYS!
PHEW...
WHAT THE HECK!? THEN HOW COME YOU PUT UP SUCH AN ACT!?
I WANTED TO SEE HIM WITH MY OWN EYES...
I WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOUR BOYFRIEND SEEMED LIKE A GOOD GUY.
HEY RIT-CHAN. DID YOU WAIT LONG?
SO... WHO ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO MEET UP WITH?
WHAT? WELL, WE ASKED IF YOU HAD A BOY-FRIEND AND YOU DIDN'T DENY IT—!
"BOY-FRIEND"? OH? WHAT ON EARTH COULD YOU BE TALKING ABOUT?
EH?
OH, HI SOKABE-SAN! NO, NOT AT ALL... I JUST GOT HERE.
IS THAT SO.
STEAM RISING!
FLEXIN' THE ACTING CHOPS HONED ON: ROMEO AND JULIET!
I WAS ACTING! IT WAS A PERFOR-MANCE! AND IT WAS SO FUNNY SEE NG YOUR REACTION.


WHOA! THANK YOU SOOO MUCH!!
IT'S A BOOK WITH ALL OF LAST YEAR'S ENTRANCE EXAM QUESTIONS, PLUS SOME OF MY OLD STUDY WORKBOOKS.
HERE, RIT-CHAN... DO YOU THINK THIS'LL WORK FOR YOU?

H-HI THERE!
NICE TO SEE YOU ALL AGAIN
WOW, LOOKS LIKE YOU BROUGHT EVERYONE ELSE WITH YOU TOO.


EXACTLY! 'COS I'M GONNA SHARE 'EM ALL WITH YOU GUYS!
SO THE WHOLE REASON YOU CAME DOWN HERE WAS JUST TO GET THOSE BOOKS...?

OH, I DUNNO... IT'S A LONG STORY. WE'VE JUST BECOME FRIENDS!
?
RIT-CHAN, WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH YOU AND SOKABE-SENPAI...?
AND E-MAILING HER A WHOLE BUNCH TOO


WHAT ...?
THOUGHT EVERYONE WAS GONNA TELL ME HOW SMART THIS WAS...
IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO START BUYING STUDY GUIDES NOW
I ALREADY BOUGHT MINE!
...BUT DON'T YOU THINK EVERYONE PROBABLY ALREADY HAS PREP BOOKS LIKE THAT?

SERI-OUSLY —?!
WHAT AN AMAZING COINCI-DENCE
AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, SOKABE-SAN GOES TO N WOMEN'S COLLEGE!

YOU GOT ME. I WAS PUTTIN' ON AIRS.
CAN I BORROW IT?
WAIT A MINUTE... YUI, THERE'S NO WAY YOU ALREADY BOUGHT A STUDY GUIDE.

...I THINK THIS IS MORE THAN ENOUGH SURPRISE FOR US.
TREMBLE
THE TRUTH IS, I WAS REALLY LOOKIN' FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE'S SURPRISED FACES WHEN WE ALL SAW HER AT COLLEGE NEXT YEAR, BUT...

GOOD LUCK ON YOUR ENTRANCE EXAMS, EVERYONE!

SEE YOU LATER... AND THANKS AGAIN FOR BRINGING ALL THAT STUFF FOR US!

OH? WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS IT?

JUST A SMALL TOKEN OF MY APPRECIATION.

SLIDE

HERE, SOKABE-DONO. THIS HARDLY COUNTS AS A GIFT, BUT...

YES, I AM!!

HMPH

TIMID

...ARE YOU STILL MAD AT ME?

BWUH! YUI, YOU IDIOT!

RIT-CHAN, WHAT'S THAT—?

BUMP

THE SECOND I GET A BOY-FRIEND, YOU'LL BE THE FIRST ONE I TELL!

C'MON... I'M REEEALLY SORRY, MIO. I PROMISE I'LL TELL YOU EVERY-THING FROM NOW ON, OKAY?

ひら

FLUTTER

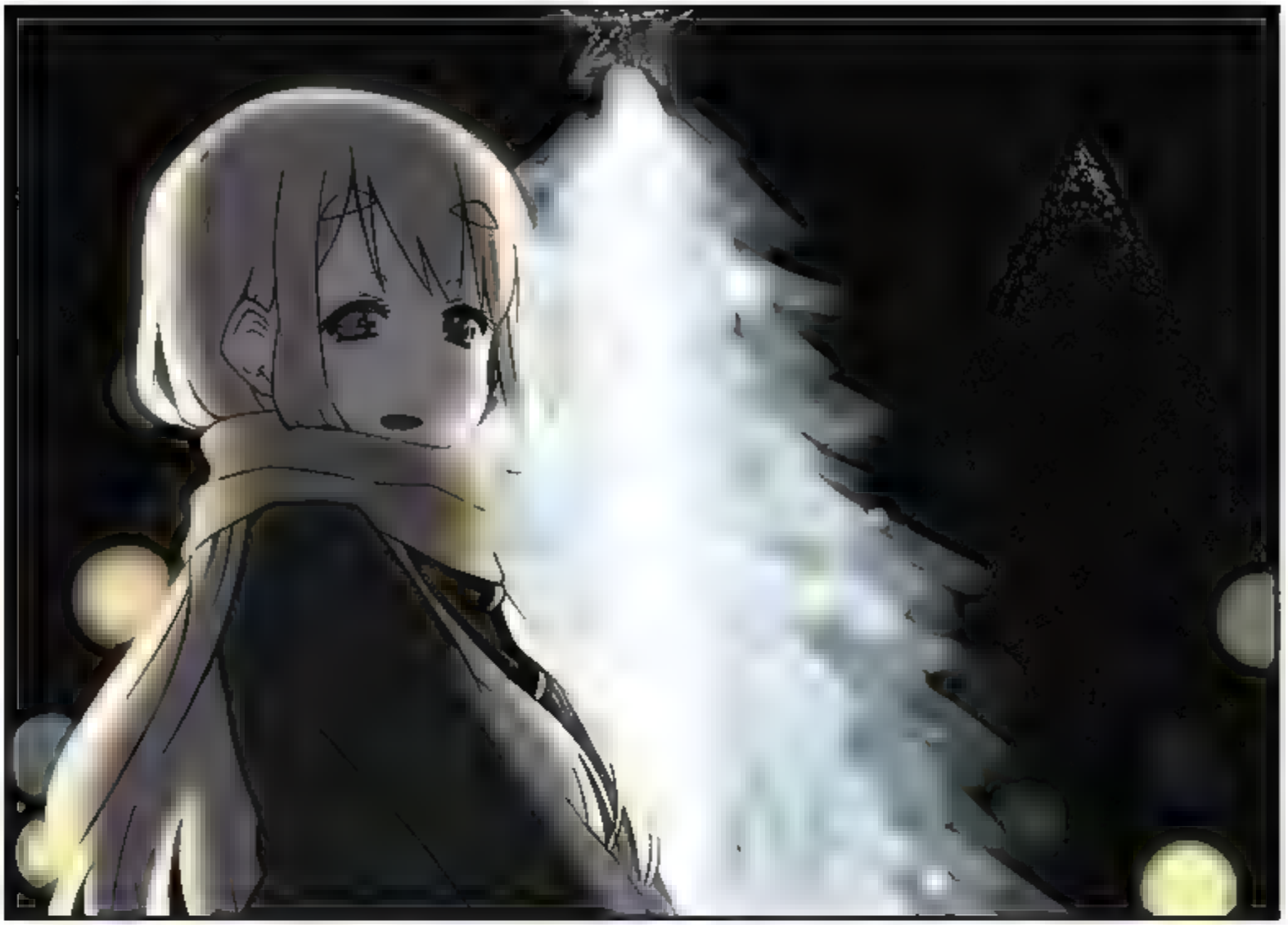
...I THINK THAT'S SETTING THE BAR A BIT LOW.

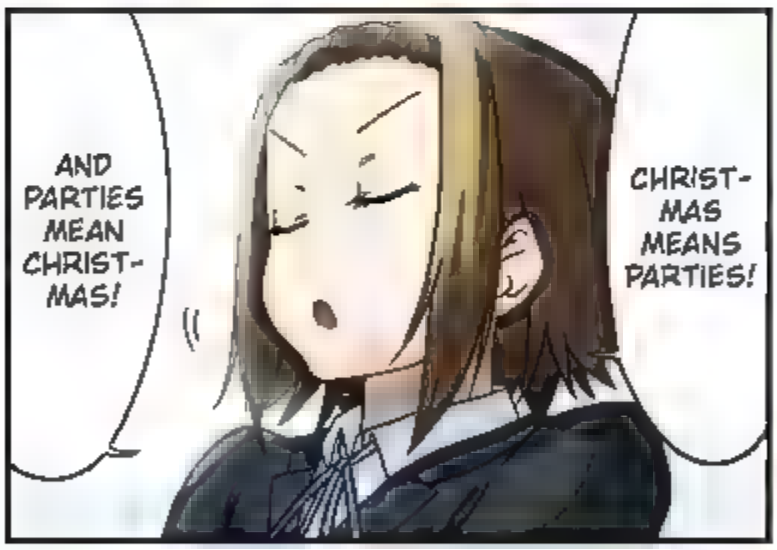
I-I'LL BET AROUND FORTY AT LEAST!

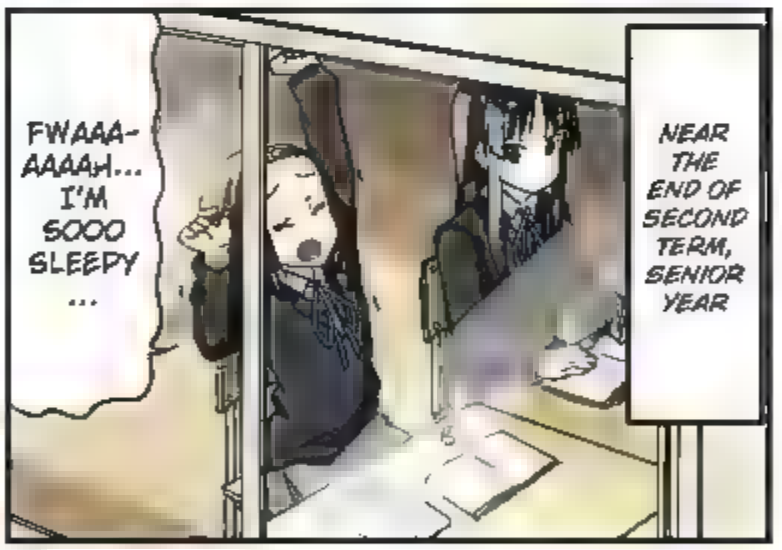
...HMM, I WONDER WHEN THAT'S GONNA HAPPEN.

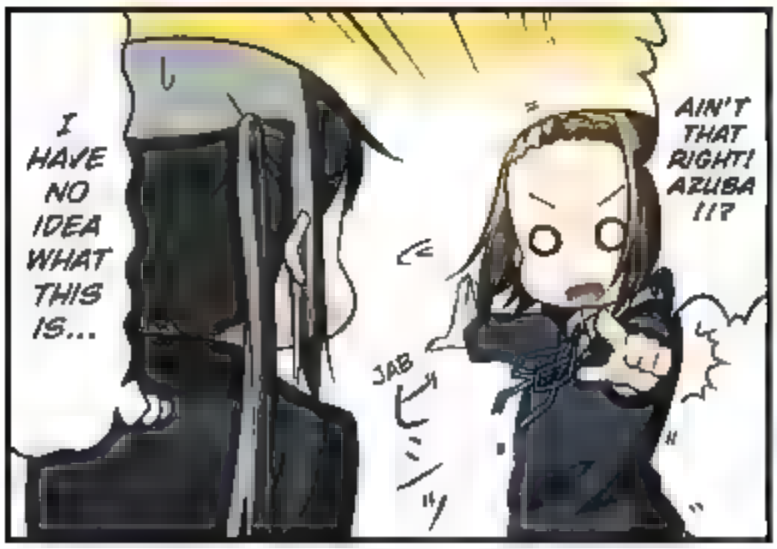
WAIT—!! IT'S NOT MY FAULT! IT'S 'COS NODOKA SAID THIS IS WHAT SHE'D LIKE BEST—!!

...RIII... TSUUU ...!




AND PARTIES MEAN CHRIST-MAS!
CHRIST-MAS MEANS PARTIES!


FWAAA-AAAAH... I'M SOOO SLEEPY ...
NEAR THE END OF SECOND TERM, SENIOR YEAR


I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THIS IS...
AIN'T THAT RIGHT! AZUBA !!?
JAB
ビシ

HUH? OH... YEAH, I GUESS.
THAT REMINDS ME. IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS! AIN'T THAT RIGHT, AZUSA!?
LOOM

AND WE CERTAINLY DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE ON A SILLY CHRISTMAS PARTY!

FOR THOSE OF US ON THE CUSP OF OUR COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS, EACH AND EVERY DAY IS PRECIOUS!

THOSE ARE MY GLASSES

OW!

こつん

THWONK

THAT'S VERY AD-MIRABLE, RIT-CHAN!

ABSOLUTELY. IT'S JUST LIKE RITSU SAYS.

AIN'T THAT RIGHT, EVERY-ONE!?

WHY'S RIT-CHAN TALKIN' SO RESPON-SIBLE, ALL OF A SUDDEN..??

WHAT THE HELL DOES SHE WANT FROM ME...?

You're supposed to ask if we're gonna be havin' a Christmas party this year!!

カリカリ SCRITCH

SCRITCH カリ

SCRITCH カリ

RITSU-SENPAI, ARE WE GOING TO BE HAVING A CHRIST-MAS PARTY THIS YEAR?

AH, OKAY... SO THAT'S WHAT SHE'S GETTING AT...

...YOU ARE SO HIGH MAINTE-NANCE ...

WHAT THE HELL!? THIS IS THE PART WHERE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO COME IN AND SAY, "OH, SURELY WE CAN SPARE ONE DAY"... RIGHT!!?

EHH!?

NOT ON YOUR LIFE! WE ARE STUDY-ING FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW!! WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU THINKING, AZUSA-KUN!!?

I SUPPOSE IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR.

I WON'T TRY AND STOP YOU GUYS FROM DOING IT, BUT I'M NOT TAKING PART.

I'M BORED! AT LEAST PICK ME UP OR SOMETHING!

PLAY ME! PLAY ME!

カ"ラ CLONK

THERE'S JUST NO POINT IF WE CAN'T HAVE EVERYONE THERE.

HUH?

カ"ラ CLONK

SIGH.. IF MIO'S NOT GONNA BE THERE, THEN I GUESS LET'S NOT DO IT.

WE'RE CHANNELING THE INNER VOICES OF GUI-TA AND HIS BUDDIES!

...WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THAT'S MY GUITAR.

カ"ラ CLONK

YEAH, LIKE WE'VE GOT TIME FOR THAT.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT DOING A CHRISTMAS CONCERT JUST FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY?

WHADDAYA SAY, MIO? I MEAN, YOU HEARD WHAT THE GUITARS SAID...

...I GUESS IT DIDN'T WORK.

AND I ALREADY SAID ALL THAT STUFF ABOUT HOW I WOULDN'T ...

SQUIRM もん

I GUESS IF IT'S JUST ONE DAY...BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS RIGHT BEFORE THE TESTS...

もん SQUIRM

HEY—! HOW COME ELIZA-BASS IS THE ONLY ONE WHO TALKS WITH AN ACCENT!!?

PFFT-PFF-PFF-PFF!

OIYOH, WUSS GOWUN ONH? ME WANSA PLAY ME SUMM BASS NOTES, UNH-HUMM.

WHAT ARE YOU SO DEEP IN THOUGHT ABOUT, AZU-SA-CHAN?

.....
.....

YEP...

...SO IN THE END, YOU GUYS DECIDED NOT TO DO ONE THIS YEAR...?

AZUSA-CHAAAN... FIGHTING BACK THE TEEEARS... ♡

PET
なでなで
PET

YOU JUST WANTED TO DO SOME-THIN' NICE FOR YOUR SENPAIS. DIDN'T YA?

WOULD YOU PLEASE STOP PETTING ME?

NOPE ...

SPEAKING OF THAT, IT'S NOT MUCH LONGER BEFORE THEY TAKE THE CENTER TEST, IS IT?

OOH, YEAH! THAT'S A GREAT IDEA!

IN SECRET!

I HAVE AN IDEA. LET'S ALL OF US DO A CHRIST-MAS CONCERT AS A PRESENT FOR THEM! WHADDAYA THINK?

JUN...

THAT'S RIGHT. EVERYONE COMES OVER TO OUR PLACE.

...SO HOLD ON, YOU GUYS DO A PARTY EVERY YEAR?

UH... YEAH.

..YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRU-MENT?

YOU DIDN'T KNOW!?

UM...OKAY! THIS YEAR LET'S DO IT! THIS YEAR!

SO HOW COME YOU'VE NEVER DONE THAT KINDA THING WITH ME...?

OH, YOU'RE HOME, ONEE-CHAN.

YO!

HI UI, I'M HOME... HUH? HEY, LOOKS LIKE THE GANG'S ALL HERE!

HOPE YOU DON'T MIND US BEING HERE

ALL RIGHT!!

ALL RIGHT... I GUESS... LET'S PRACTICE!

AT UI'S

THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S UI'S HOUSE, WHICH MEANS YUI-SENPAI'S GONNA BE HERE!!

NO PROGRESS

SO WHAT ARE YOU THREE DOING HERE WITH A BUNCH OF INSTRU-MENTS?

?

I DON'T KNOW... I GUESS WE SHOULD ARRANGE A CHRIST-MAS-Y SONG OR...

DUDUM

WHAT SONG ARE WE GONNA DO?

...I GUESS WE CAN'T HIDE IT FROM YOU AT THIS POINT. THE TRUTH IS—

AH, I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO...

WHAT? THIS? UH, THIS IS, UM...

HUH? JUN, IS THAT... A TEN-YEN COIN YOU'RE USING?

WHICH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH INSTRUMENTS ...!!

YOU GIRLS ARE TALKIN' BOYS, AREN'T YOU!

UH... YEAH... PRETTY COOL, RIGHT?

THE TRUTH IS I JUST FORGOT MY PICK...

JUN, YOU PLAY THE BASS WITH COIN-AGE! THAT'S SO AWE-SOME! YOU'RE SO STYL-ISH!

じ——
STARE
WH-WHY ARE YOU STARIN' AT ME?
OH, IS THAT ALL? I SEE.
AZUSA-CHAN'S JUST TEACHING ME HOW TO PLAY GUITAR.
NICE SAVE, UI!
I'M BORROWING GU-TA, OKAY?
OH, YOU MEAN MY BASS?
JUN-CHAN, I REALLY LIKE IT— IT'S SO CUTE!
NO, IT'S JUST THAT YOU KNOW TOO LITTLE, YUI-SENPAI...
WELL, AZU-MEOW SURE KNOWS PLENTY ABOUT IT, DON'CHA?
SQUEEZE
ユッ
BWUH !?
YEAH, I REALLY LIKED THE LOOK, SO I SAVED UP ALL MY MONEY AND FOUND A USED ONE THAT—
THERE WE GO
I SEE JUN'S UNDERGOING HER BAPTISM BY YUI-SENPAI ...
I JUST LOVE IT !
IT'S SO~ FUZZY~
JUN-CHAN, I JUST THINK YOUR HAIR IS SOOO CUTE!
HYEEEEEEE!
SALUTE
I WANT A LESSON TOO, SENSEI!
UM... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DON'T YOU HAVE TO... YOU KNOW, STUDY OR SOMETHING...?

MUGI-SENPAI!? I SHOULD BE ASKING YOU THE SAME THING—!

HUH? HI, AZUSA-CHAN. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

IN THE CLUB-ROOM DEC. 24, LAST DAY OF CLASS-ES.

ALL RIGHT! EVERY-THING'S ALL SET!

UH? MUGI!

EVEN BY MYSELF, IF NEED BE

OH, I JUST SUD-DENLY GOT THE URGE TO HAVE A LITTLE PARTY IN THE CLUB-ROOM.

I REALLY HOPE ONEE-CHAN LIKES IT...

THE THOUGHT OF PERFORM N' IN FRONT OF M,O-SENPA

OOOH . I'M STARTIN' TO GET NERVOUS FOR SOME REASON . .

〈〈 3.5 〉〉 STROLL

I BROUGHT SOME DECORATIONS!

WELL, WHAD-DAYA KNOW... GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE!

OH, YUI-CHAN! YOU CAME TOO?

.....

.....

... EXCEPT EVERY-ONE'S REALLY LATE GETTING HERE, HUH?

WHAT ARE YOU, A DOG —?

WELL, I DO HAVE SOME CAKE

I SMELLED SOMETHING REALLY GOOD, SO I FOLLOWED IT ALL THE WAY HERE...

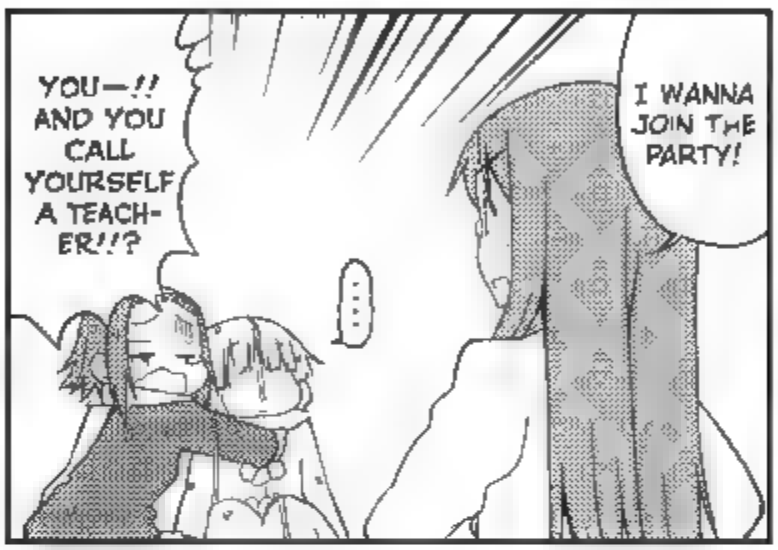
UHP.

OTHERWISE, THERE'S THE CLOSING CEREMONY TODAY, SO THEY PROBABLY WON'T COME

YOU DID TE... EVERY-ONE WE WERE GONNA HAVE A PARTY HERE TODAY, RIGHT? ... AZUSA-CHAN?

GYAAAH!!
POP
GYAAH!!
BAM!!

HEY, IT'S MIO-CHAN!
じー
STARE


YOU—!! AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A TEACH-ER!!?
I WANNA JOIN THE PARTY!

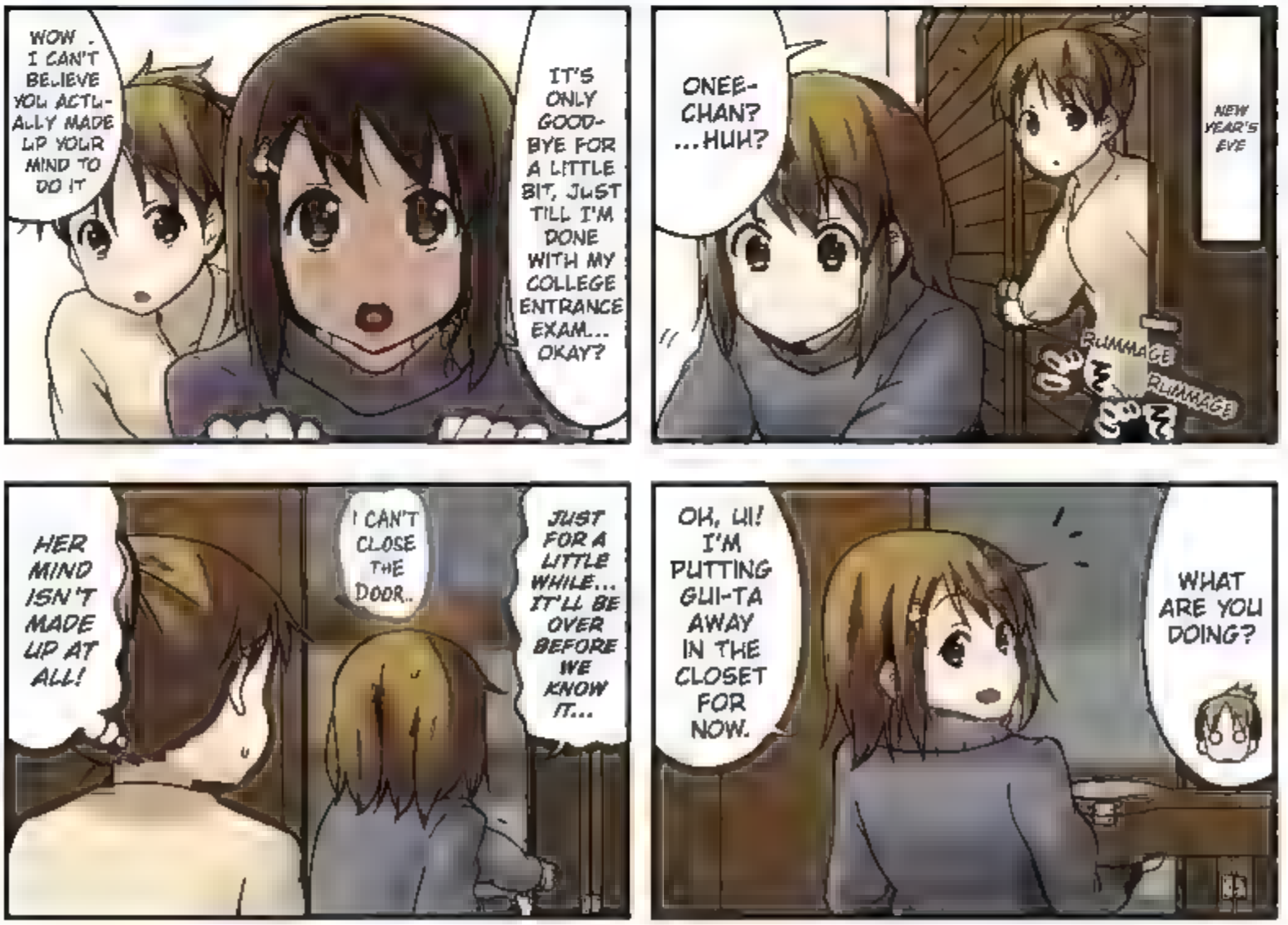
I KNEW IT. YOU WANTED A PARTY TOO, DIDN'-CHA?
NO, I WAS JUST—
C'MON, MIO-CHAN - COME IN!

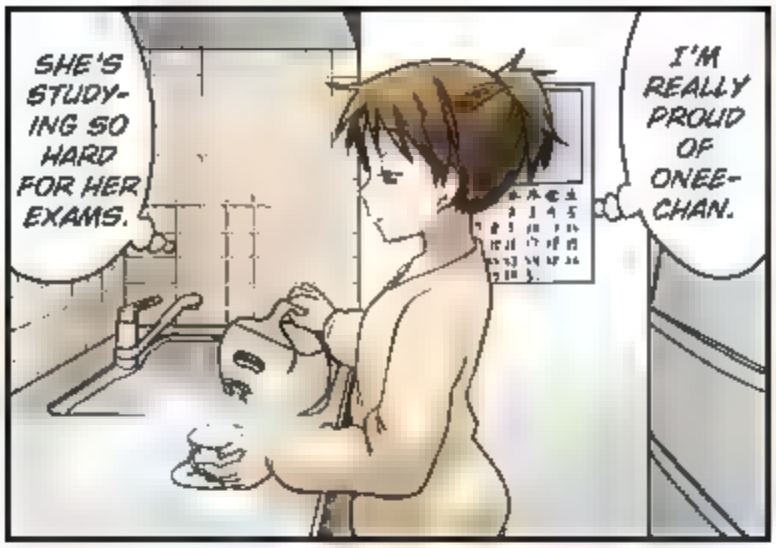
DO IT, AZUSA!
Y... YEAH...
... EVERY-ONE'S HERE NOW, AZUSA-CHAN.

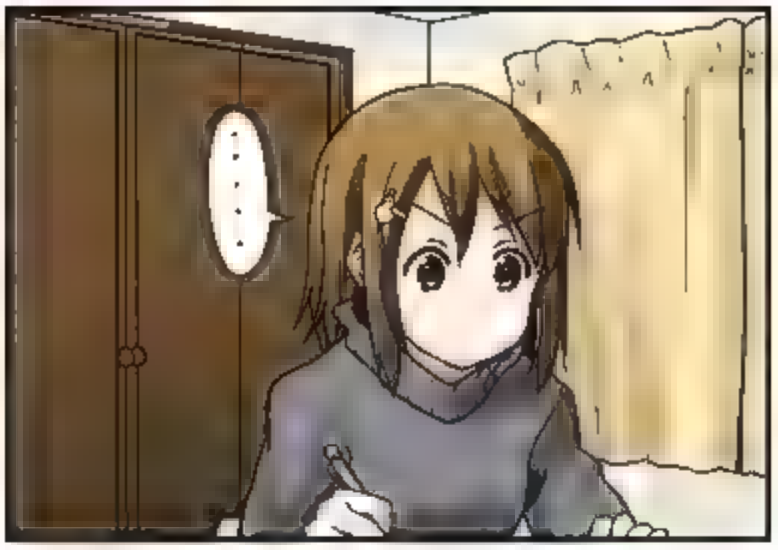
HMMMM?
I...I JUST FORGOT SOME-THING IN HERE. THAT'S ALL.

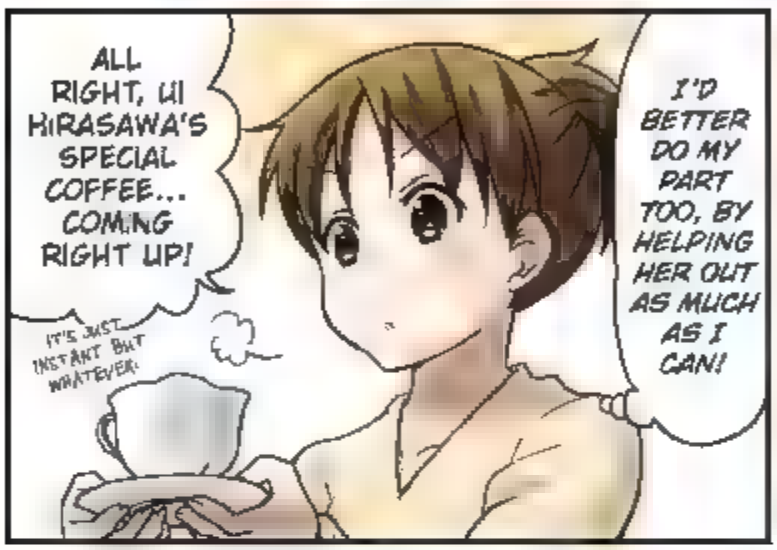
WELL, HURRY AND START! I WANNA HEAR!
WHAT—? THAT'S SO COOL!
UM... LISTEN UP, SENPAIS! ACTUALLY, WE WANTED TO DO A CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR YOU GUYS!

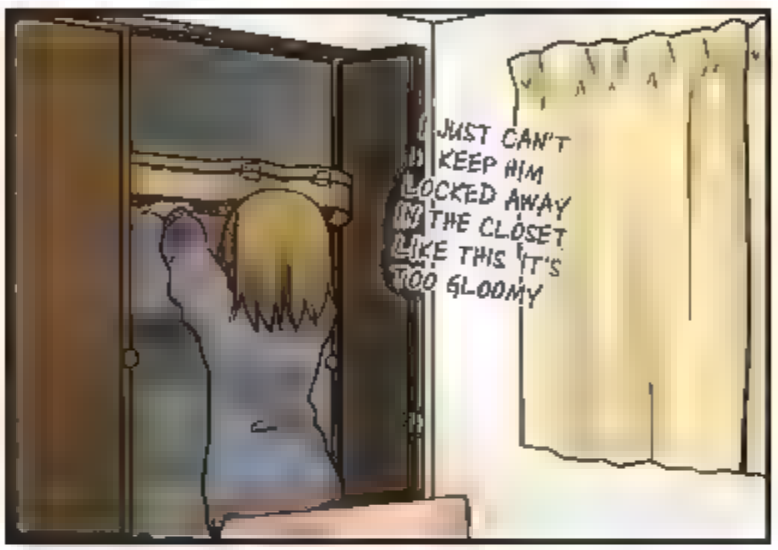
HOLY PARTY FAVORS! APPAR-ENTLY YOU WANTED IT MORE THAN ANY OF US!!
FWD
PARTY POPPER
.....
.....

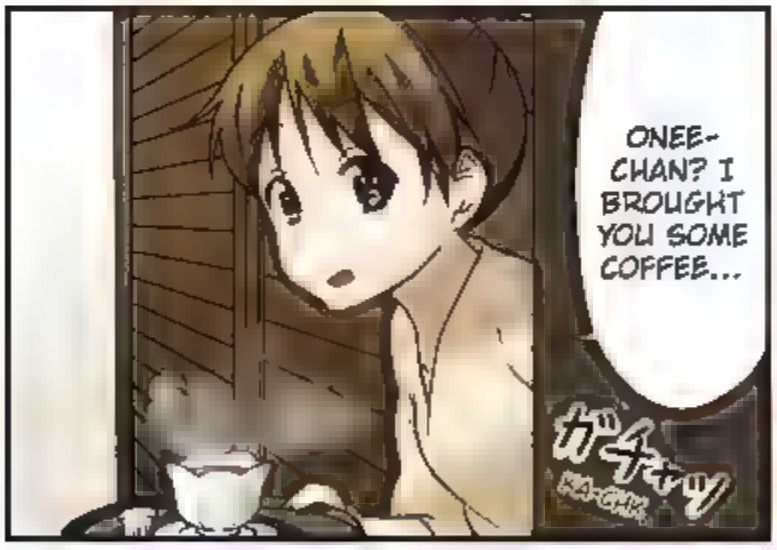

WOW. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU ACTUALLY MADE UP YOUR MIND TO DO IT
IT'S ONLY GOOD-BYE FOR A LITTLE BIT, JUST TILL I'M DONE WITH MY COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM... OKAY?
ONEE-CHAN? ...HUH?
NEW YEAR'S EVE
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE
HER MIND ISN'T MADE UP AT ALL!
I CAN'T CLOSE THE DOOR..
JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE... IT'LL BE OVER BEFORE WE KNOW IT...
OH, UI! I'M PUTTING GUI-TA AWAY IN THE CLOSET FOR NOW.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

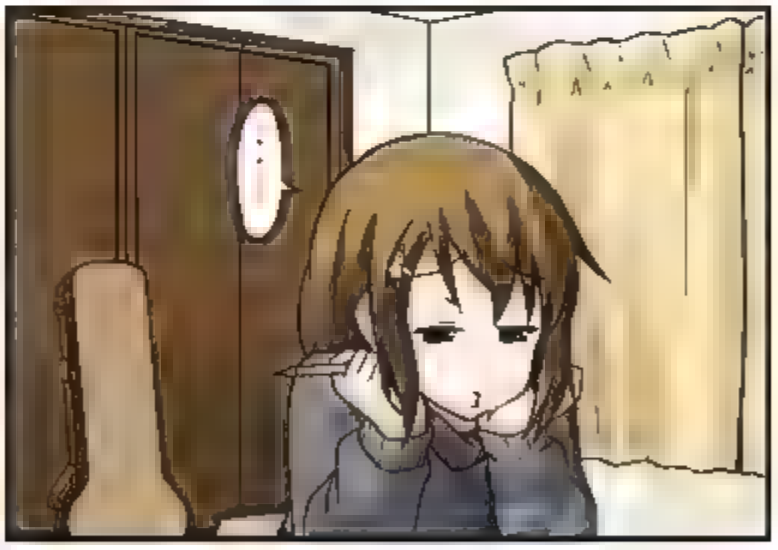

SHE'S STUDYING SO HARD FOR HER EXAMS.
I'M REALLY PROUD OF ONEE-CHAN.

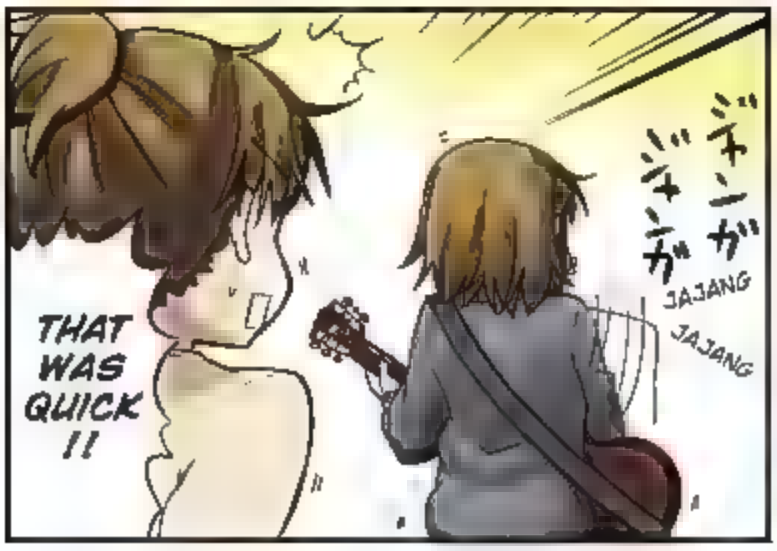

...

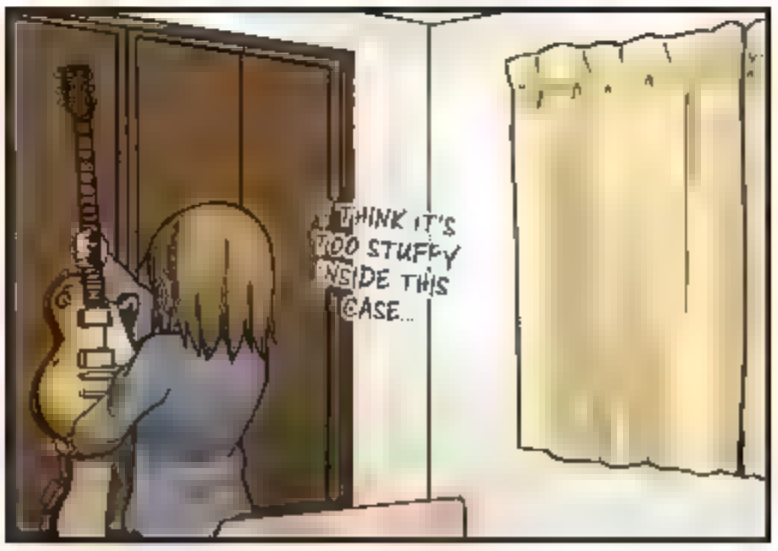

ALL RIGHT, UI HIRASAWA'S SPECIAL COFFEE... COMING RIGHT UP!
I'D BETTER DO MY PART TOO, BY HELPING HER OUT AS MUCH AS I CAN!
IT'S JUST INSTANT BUT WHATEVER.


I JUST CAN'T KEEP HIM LOCKED AWAY IN THE CLOSET LIKE THIS IT'S TOO GLOOMY


ONEE-CHAN? I BROUGHT YOU SOME COFFEE...
ガチャッ
HA-CHA


...


THAT WAS QUICK !!
ジャンガ ジャンガ
JAJANG JAJANG


I THINK IT'S TOO STUFFY INSIDE THIS CASE...

...I DON'T GET ECONOM-ICS...

I JUST DON'T SEE MYSELF FIGURING THIS ONE OUT ON MY OWN.

OOOH... MY BABY... PLEASE TAKE CARE OF HIM!

I'M JUST GONNA KEEP GUI-TA HERE WITH ME FOR A BIT, ALL RIGHT?

MAYBE I CAN GET SOME HELP FROM MIO-CHAN. LET'S SEE... "PLZ DO U MIND COMING OVER 2 HELP ME STUDY?" ...AND SEND.

CLICK CLICK

BABEEP

OOOH... GUI-TAAA...

...OR SOME-THING LIKE THAT!

BABEEP

IMITATING MIO

...BUT KNOWING MIO-CHAN, SHE'LL PROBABLY SAY "YOU SAY THAT NOW, BUT I BET ALL YOU WANT TO DO IS TALK!!"

WHOOOA...

Yui-chan, good luck with your studies! I'm rooting for you! Love, Gui-Ta

I EVEN NAILED THE EXACT WORDING...

PFFFEH-HEH-HEH-HEH HEH-HEH-HEH..

u say that now, but i bet all u wanna do is talk!

TEE HEE.

I'M GONNA DO MY BEST—!!

AH, COME ON IN!

YO! I'M HERE.

...THAT'S BASICALLY IT.

...SO..

HUH? BEATS ME. I DUNNO WHAT MADE YOU THINK I'D KNOW THE ANSWER...

SEE THIS HERE? THIS IS THE ONE I DON'T GET I WAS HOPING YOU MIGHT KNOW THE ANSWER...

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO KEEP THOSE THOUGHTS TO YOURSELF—!!

That's why I decided to call you... 'cos I thought you probably wouldn't be busy anyway.

...

.....

REALLY—? STUDYIN' OR SOMETHING?

TWIRL 3 3 TWIRL

And besides, I am busy, thank you very much!!

HOPPING MAD

I CAME OVER 'COS YA CALLED AND TOLD ME TO COME OVER!!

WELL, GEEZ... THEN WHAT'D YOU COME OVER HERE FOR ...!?

...OKAY, LEAVIN' NOW.

TA DA DA DA!

.....

.....

...I'M LEVELIN' UP ON THIS RPG.

.....

Okay

.....

WHAT'D SHE SAY?

WHOA, I ALREADY GOT A REPLY BACK FROM NODOKA.

OKAY... "WANNA HAVE A STUDY SESSION @ MY HOUSE?" ...AND SEND.

I'B WEAWWY SOWWY-

SO THIS IS YOUR PUNISHMENT_

STRETCH

ON NEW YEAR'S EVE...? GEEZ, NODOKA'S HARDCORE.

SORRY, YUI.

OH MAN. SHE SAYS SHE'S AT CRAM SCHOOL RIGHT NOW.

GOOD IDEA! LET'S CALL NODOKA OR MUGI OR SOME-ONE.

I THINK I'VE ALREADY READ PRETTY MUCH ALL THE MANGA YUI'S GOT_

I GUESS I'VE GOT NO CHOICE— I'M GONNA HAFTA CALL MY LIFELINE.

NA-CHK

I GUESS SHE MUST BE REALLY BUSY TOO...

I STILL HAVEN'T HEARD BACK FROM MUGI-CHAN.

ONEE-CHAN?

HM?

.....

THAT WAS FAST—!!

BROUGHT A PRESENT HERE FOR YOU

MUGI-SAN'S HERE.

WHY THE HECK WERE YOU TRYIN' TO CALL AZUSA?

I THOUGHT MAYBE SHE COULD SAY SOMETHING TO CHEER ME UP...

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE CALLING SOMEONE TO TELL ME THE ANSWER.

WHAT WAS THIS ALL ABOUT, ANYWAY?

...SO?

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT—!!?

YUI-SEN-PAI!?

SO THERE WAS BASI-CALLY NO REASON FOR ME TO COME...?

I DIDN'T MEAN TO CALL YOU OVER..

OH, I WAS JUST THINKIN' WE COULD STUDY TOGETH-ER.

HUH? AZUSA?

...UH, IT WOULD SEEM YOU ARE.

BLUSH

.....

...RITSU-SENPAI, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE GONNA BE ABLE TO PASS THE ENTRANCE EXAM?

MAYBE YOU CAN HELP!

BUT WAIT... NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, I DID HAVE SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT STUFF WE LEARNED IN OUR SECOND YEAR THAT I STILL DON'T GET.

"THAT AWFUL E-MAIL" ...?

?

I GOT THAT AWFUL E-MAIL FROM YOU, SO I CAME RUNN NG AS FAST AS I COuLD... I WAS SO WORRIED! ..BUT I GUESS YOU'RE FINE.

WAAGH! NOW I KNOW I SHOULD-NA COME!!

YOU'RE MY LITTLE ENERGY RECHARGER!♡

WELL SINCE YOU'RE ALREADY HERE, YOU MAY AS WELL TAKE OFF YOUR COAT AND STAY A WHILE!

HOLY FRIGGIN' SCARY!!

From: Yui-senpai
Subject: Help me, Azu-meow!!

Azu-meow, come over right away~

Help m

THIS.

OH. THAT WAS THE E-MAIL I STARTED BE-FORE I GUESS I ACCIDENTALLY PRESSED "SEND" ON IT.

WHOA!

HI EVERY-ONE..

HM?

BRRRT

HUH...? I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU COULDN'T COME, MIO. DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT BEFORE...?

THANKS FOR COMIN', MIO-CHAN!!

I SWEAR... I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I HAVE TO SAY IT. NO MEANS NO.

I WONDER IF THAT'S YUI AGAIN

WAAH! JUST KIDDING! BESIDES, THIS TIME WE INVITED YOU AGAIN... JUST IN CASE!

LUNGE

Come join us, Mio~!

IF YOU'RE GONNA THANK ME, I REALLY WISH YOU'D DO IT LIKE A NORMAL PERSON !!

YOU FREAKED ME OUT!!

THANK YOU, RITSU ...!

I'M SO GLAD YOU INVITED ME

WHERE'D MY COAT GO..?

OH! NOW IT MAKES SENSE!!

ALL YOU'VE GOTTA DO IS THIS, AND THEN THE ANSWER'S THIS .. SEE?

I'D LIKE TO KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE MYSELF. U

...BUT HOW COME YOU INVITED AZUSA TOO...?

TRY SOLVING THE PROBLEMS ON YOUR OWN FOR A CHANGE.

SURE, IT'S A GREAT SETUP... FOR THE HELPEES.

WE REALLY DO MAKE MORE [redacted] WHEN WE STUDY WITH EVERYONE HUH?

WHAT A TERRIBLE THING TO SAY, MIO!

RUB

GWUHHH

DUH! 'COS SHE'S IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB! OF COURSE WE'RE GONNA CALL HER!

NO . I JUST MEANT.

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.

IN THE END, THIS YEAR TURNED OUT JUST LIKE EVERY OTHER NEW YEAR'S, DIDN'T IT?

THAT WAS MEAN, MIO YOU'RE CRUEL. YOU'RE THE DEVIL.

IT'S FINE. I KNEW WHAT YOU MEANT

I'M REALLY SORRY. THAT DIDN'T COME OUT RIGHT.

AND UI-CHAN'S JUST AS PREPARED AS SHE IS EVERY YEAR!!

I BROUGHT ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE.

HEY, GUYS. . YOUR NEW YEAR'S SOBA IS READY.

IT LOOKS LIKE KAGAMI MOCHI.

SHLURP

IF SHE WOULDN'T GET SO CARRIED AWAY. .

STEAM

NO, NO, NOTH-ING LIKE THAT!!
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY OVER HERE JUST FOR THAT!? AZUSA-CHAN, ARE YOU THAT CONCERNED ABOUT MY SISTER...?
I'D BETTER WAKE UP ONEE-CHAN BEFORE TOO LONG...
DING-DONG
TODAY'S THE DAY OF MY BIG SISTER'S ENTRANCE EXAM TO N WOMEN'S COLLEGE
YOU COULD'VE JUST ASKED ME AT SCHOOL ...
?
...I JUST KNEW THAT UNLESS I SAW YUI-SENPAI UP AND OUT OF BED AND HEAD-ING FOR THE TEST WITH MY OWN EYES, I'D BE AGONIZING OVER IT THE ENTIRE DAY.
GOOD MORN-ING, UI. I WAS JUST WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER YOU'D GOT-TEN YUI-SENPAI UP OR NOT
HUH? AZUSA-CHAN? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?

OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

SORRY TO BARGE IN ON YA SO EARLY IN THE MORN-IN'.

RITSU-SAN! MIO-SAN!

MORNING, UI-CHAN. IS YUI AWAKE?

ピンポーン DING-DONG

WELL, WE JUST STARTED GETTING WORRIED, YOU KNOW? LIKE, WHAT IF YU ENDS UP FAILING THE TEST BECAUSE SHE SHOWS UP LATE OR SOMETHING. .

YOU CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT ONE, ONEE-CHAN

WELL... I MEAN, WE WEREN'T ACTUALLY PLANNIN' ON COMIN' ALL THE WAY OVER TO YUI'S, BUT .

YO MUGI.

TSUMUGI-SAN. .YOU TOO!?

GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. UM...IS YUI-CHAN UP, BY ANY CHANCE?

YEAH... I WAS JUST GETTING READY TO WAKE HER WHEN YOU GUYS SHOWED UP.

YUI'S ROOM

WHAT...? YUI'S STILL SLEEPING?

ZZZ BOOOOOLEEP

...I CAN SEE MY BIG SISTER'S REALLY LOVED BY ALL HER FRIENDS...

BONK ゴン

JUST WAKE HER UP NOR-MALLY.

. IN THAT CASE, LET'S PLAY A LITTLE WAKE-UP PRANK ON MISS YUI HIRASAWA, SHALL WE...?

THEY ARE DOING THIS BECAUSE THEY LOVE HER... RIGHT?

From: Nodoka-chan

Morning, Ui. Is Yui up yet?

"...ONEE-CHAN JUST WOKE UP!" ...THERE.

"NODO-KA-CHAN ...

カチ CLICK

VERY QUIETLY ...

HERE, YU. HERE'S YOUR BREAK-FAST

THANKS.

カチーン FROZEN STIFF

YEP. I DON'T REMEMBER A THING AFTER 8:00.

YOU GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP?

ちょ

BAM

DWUH!!

MUNCH もきゃ MUNCH もきゃ

WOW, ONEE-CHAN... YOU WOKE UP ALL BY YOUR-SELF!

Y-YOU... YOU F-FRIGGIN' SCARED THE HELL OUTTA ME...!

AFTER THREE YEARS—!!

YUI'S PARENTS!! IT'S SO NICE TO MEET YOU!!

THAT'S THE BIG SISTER I KNOW.

...THAT STUPID DOOR-BELL KEPT RING-ING AND WOKE ME UP.

YEAH, RIGHT. LIKE I'D EVER FORGET ANY-THING.

IT'D BE TOTALLY FUNNY IF YOU WERE SAYIN' ALL THAT AND THEN FORGOT SOMETHIN' YOURSELF, HUH?

OKAAAY! GOOD LUCK ON THE TEST!!

ALL RIGHT... I'M OFF!

EHHH!?

...OH CRAP!! IT'S NOT HERE!! I KNOW I PUT IT IN HERE, BUT—!!

YEP! GOT IT RIGHT HERE!

YUI, DID YOU REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR TEST REGISTRATION FORM?

OH. LOOK WHAT I JUST FOUND. IT'S MIO'S TEST REGIS-TRATION FORM. ☆

OH MY GOD, RITSU .. WHAT DO I DO!? I MUST'VE LEFT IT BACK AT THE HOUSE...!

I'M TELLIN' YOU, IT'S UNDER CONTROL! ALL THE PREPARA-TIONS WERE MADE LAST NIGHT!

WHAT ABOUT SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH? REMEMBER, WE CAN'T USE ANY-THING BUT PENCILS.

JUST A... LITTLE...

I'M SORRY !!

UMMM... IT WAS JUST A LITTLE JOKE...

.IN THAT CASE, I CAN BREATHE EASY.

BY YUI!

OHP!!

ALL RIGHT, SEE YA!

RIGHT... BYE...

ARE YOU GUYS GONNA BE OKAY?

OKAY, U.-CHAN AND AZUSA-CHAN. .I GUESS THIS IS WHERE WE SAY GOOD-BYE.

NOW I'M AWAKE

W-WILL YOU STILL MAKE IT IF YOU HURRY BACK AND GET IT—

EHH!?

I FORGOT SOME-THING, AFTER ALL.

OH, RIGHT...

GOOD LUCK, EVERY-ONE!!

—NOW!?

SQUEEZE

I MADE THESE GOOD-LUCK CHARMS FOR EVERY-ONE!

HERE!!

LUCK IN SCHOOL

...I KINDA WISH YOU HADN'T REMEM-BERED..

SNUGGLE

I JUST CAN'T START THE DAY WITHOUT HUGGING MY AZU-MEOW!

SNUGGLE

THESE COULD TOTALLY WORK.

THANK YOU

I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK THEY'RE TOO NERDY..

Y-YOU GUYS...! DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE TAKING THIS A LITTLE TOO FA—

ALL RIGHT, NEXT! COME AN' GET SOME!

YUI, YOU NEVER GROW TIRED OF HUGGING POOR AZUSA, DO YOU?

ぎゅっ♡ SQUEEZE

—UHR!?

WHAT AM I, A STUFFED ANIMAL ...?

OH, YOU HAVE NO IDEA! AZU-MEOW IS AMAZING. SHE'S THE PERFECT SIZE! IT'S THE PERFECT HUG!

FITS JUST RIGHT♪

WH-WHY'S MUGI-SENPAI HUGGING ME TOO—!? I CAN'T REALLY PULL AWAY 'COS SHE'S NOT MEAN ABOUT IT LIKE YUI-SENPAI AND RITSU-SENPAI, BUT... BUT WHY DOES SHE SMELL SO GOOD...?

WOW, I TOTALLY AGREE. THIS IS A REALLY SATISFY-ING HUG! ♡

HYEE !?

OH-HO. REALLY? LEMME SEE!

YEAH, THAT KOALA AT THE ZOO WHO WEIRDED OUT FROM GETTING TOO MANY HUGS.

I THINK I SAW SOME-THING LIKE THIS ON TV ONCE.

AZUSA-CHAN!?

FAINT

THAT'S NOT WHAT SHE MEANT, RITSU.

FITS JUST RIGHT!

SQUEEZE

YUI'S RIGHT! LOOK, SHE'S TO-TALLY EASY TO PULL THIS MOVE ON!!

UUUH... I DON'T WANNA TAKE THIS TEST...
I JUST WANNA GO HOME ..

WE'RE GONNA DO OUR BEST—!!
WE'RE GONNA BE LATE FOR SCHOOL IF WE DON'T GET GOING
OKAY, ONEE-CHAN. GOOD LUCK!

DON'T WORRY, MIO-CHAN. YOU STUDIED REALLY HARD FOR THIS!
SHE'S RIGHT... AND IF YOU DO HAPPEN TO FAIL FOR WHATEVER REASON, I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!

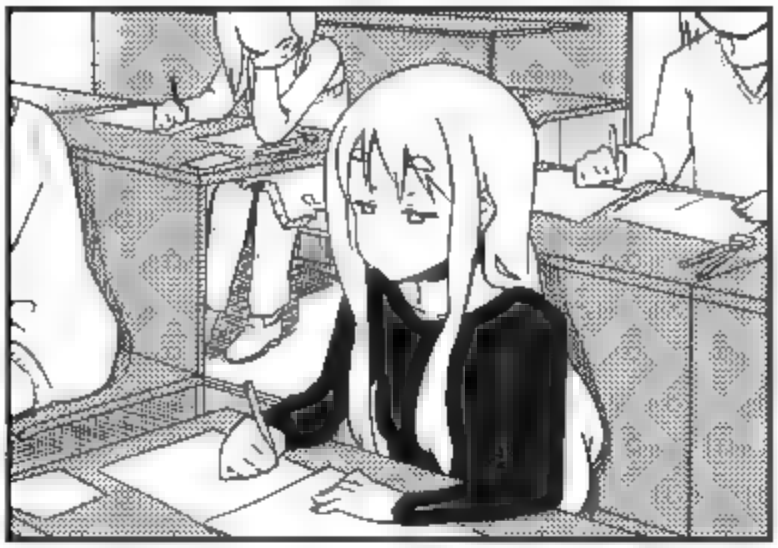
C'MON ..
THAT'S NO FUN.
SPEAK-ING OF WHICH, MIO, YOU'RE UNUSU-ALLY CALM TODAY, HUH?

HOW COULD YOU "TAKE CARE OF IT"...?
...HUH?

...I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M ALWAYS RUNNING AROUND IN A PANI—
IT'S NOT, LIKE, EVERY TIME, YOU KNOW ...

THAT WAS A JOKE!? THERE'S, LIKE, NO COME-BACK TO THAT!!
...JUST KID-DING! ♡

WHAT, SO THIS WHOLE TIME YOU WERE JUST PLAYIN' TOUGH WHILE UI AND AZUSA WERE HERE ...!!?
PANIC あた PANIC ふた
OMIGOD OMIGOD OMIGOD WHA-DOIDO !!?? RITSU-UUU—!!
LET GO OF ME!



OH...?
MUGI TRIED TO MAKE A JOKE.
HEE-HEE.
HEE-HEE.
HEE.

HEE-HEE-HEE
MUGI-CHAN, YOU'RE AMAZING!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU ACTUALLY MADE MIO LAUGH IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS.

ALL RIGHT. SHALL WE GO, GIRLS ...?

WE CAN DO THIS!!
YEAH —!!
N WOMEN'S COLLEGE... YOU BETTER WATCH OUT, 'COS HERE WE COME!!

K
O
N
-
!

UH-UH-OF COURSE I KNOW THAT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' STANDIN' IN FRONT OF THE SENIOR CLASS-ROOM? YOU DO KNOW YOUR SISTER'S NOT IN THERE, RIGHT...?

WHEN I SEE ALL THE EMPTY CLASS-ROOMS, I FEEL A KIND OF LONELI-NESS WELL UP INSIDE...
HI. MY NAME IS UI HIRASAWA. IT'S THE SEASON FOR COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS RIGHT NOW, SO ALL THE SENIORS IN SCHOOL ARE STUDYING AT HOME INSTEAD OF COMING TO CLASSES.

DANGER!!
HOW LONG AGO?
I JUST CAME BACK FOR MY SISTER'S LUNCH BOX. SHE ACCIDEN-TALLY LEFT IT IN THE CLASS-ROOM.

JUN-CHAN?
HEY, UI! THERE YOU ARE! I'VE BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YOU—!!

HUH? OH... UI? JUN?

AZUSA-CHAN... SENSEI... WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?

HEY, UI... DO YOU WANNA HEAD TO THE POP MUSIC CLUB WITH ME?

WHAT? DON'T TELL ME, JUN-CHAN— ARE YOU GONNA JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB!?

EEK!!

ぐりん

SWIVEL

NO, I WAS JUST WONDERIN' WHAT AZUSA'S DOIN' IN THERE ALL BY HERSELF.

SHE COULD BE BAWLIN' HER EYES OUT IN THERE, FOR ALL WE KNOW!

JUN-CHAN ...

YOU KNOW VERY WELL THAT AZUSA-CHAN'S PRACTICING GUITAR

UUUUU... !!!!!... CHAAAN...

UH... UM...?

HEY, ANYBODY HOME—? MAN, IT'S KINDA DARK IN HERE...

WH-WHAT'S THAT SOUND ...!?

SNIP

チョン

SNIP

チョン

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, POUR ME SOME TEA!!

HWUH?

SCARY!!

SNIP

チョン

←GUITAR STRINGS

SHEESH. IF YOU CAN'T EVEN ADMIT IT...

SHOCK

BUT I'M NOT LONELY!

BESIDES, IF YOU LEAVE ME ALL ALONE IN HERE WITH SENSEI, GOD ONLY KNOWS WHAT SHE MIGHT DO TO ME!

YEAH, I GUESS MUGI-SENPAI'S NOT COMING AROUND MUCH ANYMORE, IS SHE?

THIS IS HEAVEN

MAN, THAT SCARED THE HELL OUTTA ME..

SENSEI'S BEEN KINDA DOWN IN THE DUMPS BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF TEA PARTIES LATELY..

WHEH!?

I'M LONELY!!

FWP

WE JUST CAME TO CHEER YOU UP! WE FIGURED YOU'RE PROBABLY FEELIN' PRETTY LONELY IN HERE SINCE THE OTHERS STOPPED COMIN'

RUB RUB

BUT JUN-CHAN, UI-CHAN, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING H— HRMYOW!?

WHEHHH!?

I'M LONELY TOO!!

FW-FWP

OH YEAH? IS THAT SO.

I TOLD YOU. I'M TOTALLY FINE BY MYSELF!

AND STOP PETTING ME, ALREADY!

WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I'M NOT LONELY!

GOOD LORD... SHE'S A STUBBORN ONE, ALL RIGHT..

PUFF

...WELL, I'M NOT LONELY!!

UM, I'M NOT LONELY PER SE, BUT, UM.. DO YOU GUYS WANNA STAY AND TALK A LITTLE. ?

FAIR ENOUGH. THEN LET'S GO, UI.

IT'S ALMOST CREEPY HOW THESE TWO ARE ON THE SAME PAGE

JUST KIDDING, GIRLS JUST KIDDING. ♪

...WHAT KINDA CLUB IS THIS, ANYWAY ...?

OHH! ♡

HEY, LOOK! I FOUND SOME COOKIES IN THE CUPBOARD!

THE NAME SAYS POP MUSIC CLUB ..

OH, THAT'S VALENTINE'S DAY.

MY SISTER SAID THEY'LL KNOW ON FEBRUARY 14TH.

SO WHEN ARE THE TEST RESULTS ANNOUNCED ?

SHE'S STUDYING. TOMORROW SHE'S GOT THE TEST FOR HER FALLBACK SCHOOL, R UNIVERSITY.

SPEAKIN' OF THE POP MUSIC CLUB, WHAT'S YUI-SENPAI BEEN UP TO LATELY?

OH! WHAT A GREAT IDEA!

IN THAT CASE, DON'T YOU THINK THEY'D REALLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU GIRLS GAVE THEM SOME CHOCOLATE AS A CELEBRATION GIFT?

I'M S-SURE SHE'LL BE FINE! ISN'T THAT RIGHT, SENSEI?

ガーン SHOCK

REALLY ..? YOU THINK SHE'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT INTO HER FALLBACK?

THAT WAS HER REASON ALL ALONG...!

AND YOU CAN GIVE ME THE LEFTOVERS. JUST ONE LITTLE PIECE OR TWO SHOULD DO NICELY. ♡

NO—!?

....

AZUSA'S HOUSE

OKAY, BUT.. I'M JUST WONDER-ING...

OKAY! SHALL WE START COOK NG, THEN?

EH!? WE'RE MAKIN' IT—!?

WHAT KIND OF CHOCOLATE TREAT SHOULD I MAKE THIS YEAR, I WONDER. LAST YEAR I DID CAKE...

'COS I WANNA GIVE OUT A HOME-MADE CHOCO-LATE PRESENT OF MY OWN! ♡

...HOW COME JUN'S HERE TOO?

WHATEVER. I'LL PROBABLY HELPED YOU WITH THE WHOLE THING, RIGHT?

I MADE MY OWN TOO, YOU KNOW! AREN'T YOU IMPRESSED?

GRIN GRIN

EH!? NO FAIR! THAT'S WHO I'M GIVING MINE TO!

TO MIO-SEN-PAI!

...DO YOU WANNA COOK TOGETHER THIS YEAR TOO?

.....

.....

I GUESS THAT HIT THE MARK

MY SISTER'S JUST THE FALLBACK..??

KIDDING! KIDDING!

OKAY. I DON'T CARE IF YOU GIVE ONE TO YUI-SENPAI

ALL RIGHT, FINE. I'LL JUST MAKE DO WITH YUI-SENPAI, THEN.

APPAR-ENTLY YOU HAVE NO PROBLEM ADMITTIN' IT WHEN IT COMES TO STUFF LIKE THIS

YES, PLEASE! TEACH ME, SENSEI!

ガラッ
SLIDE
BADUM
キッ

MMM... SO YOU DECIDED TO DO CUPCAKES THIS YEAR, I SEE.

FEBRUARY 14, THE DAY THE TEST [redacted] FOR N WOMEN'S COLLEGE ARE ANNOUNCED.

HUH? ISN'T TODAY THE DAY YUI AND EVERYONE GET THEIR TEST RESULTS? I THOUGHT FOR SURE THEY'D BE HERE... THAT'S WHY I DROPPED BY...

OH... IT'S JUST YOU, NODOKA-SAN...

SHE SAID IF THEY PASSED, THEY'D ALL BE COMING IN TO MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT

DOES THAT MEAN YUI AND THE GIRLS ARE COMING IN TODAY?

HOW'D WE END UP BEING THE WAITSTAFF?

ACTUALLY, I GOT INTO MY FIRST-CHOICE SCHOOL! I'M JUST ON THE WAY BACK FROM TELLING MY ADVISOR ABOUT IT.

THEY'RE STILL NOT HERE YET. . . BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU, NODOKA-SAN?

G-COME ON, AZUSA-CHAN . . WH WHAT G-GOOD DOES IT DO TO G-GET NERVOUS . . ? HEE-HEE-HEE . .

LOOKS LIKE MI IS TOO

OH MAN... NOW I'M START-ING TO FEEL KINDA NER-VOUS...

THAT'S ONE CUPCAKE DOWN...

I KNEW IT— THEY'RE LIKE SISTERS.

I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU! HERE, HAVE A CUP-CAKE!

REALLY!? CONGRATU-LATIONS, NODOKA-CHAN!!

WHOA, YOU'RE LETTING YOUR FOR-MAL TY SLIP, A!

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT AND STILL CALL YOUR-SELF A TEACHER?

SO IF NOBODY COMES, THEN I GUESS THAT MEANS ALL THESE CUPCAKES ARE MINE.

むぎゅっ BEAR HUG
AZU-MEOW-WWW... IT'S BEEN SO LONG!
YU-SENP— WUGH-HHH!
ビクッ JUMP
AH!!
ガラ SLIDE
BWUH! YU-YUI-SENPAI! IF YOU CAME TO SCHOOL TODAY, THAT MUST MEAN ...!!
WHAT DO I SAY IF ONE OF THEM'S NOT THERE ...?
OOOH... I CAN'T LOOK...
WE GOT IN. WE'RE GOIN' TO N WOMEN'S COLLEGE!
ALL OF US
HEE HEE HEE.
くるっ TWIRL
LOOK, AZUSA!
WHHHHH?
ぎゅーっ HUG
EVERY-ONE'S HERE.
WHAT'S THIS?

IN THAT CASE, I'LL GO MAKE US SOME TEA!

WE MADE CHOCOLATE CUPCAKES FOR EVERYONE, SO PLEASE HAVE SOME IF YOU WANT OW! OW!

THANK YOU.

AND YOU TOO, MIO-SENPAI AND MUGI-SENPAI. . CONGRATULA-TIONS!

AZUSA-CHAN LOOKS SO HAPPY.

...EVERY-ONE'S SUCH GOOD FRIENDS IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB, HUH? I ACTU-ALLY KINDA REGRET NOT HAVIN' ENOUGH TIME IN MY SCHEDULE TO JOIN.

UMMM... IT'S KINDA HARD TO DO IT ON COMMAND ...

I'M GONNA GIVE YOU A BIG WET KISS!

C'MON, C'MON, C'MON... WHERE'S MY CON-GRATULA-TIONS HUG?

SEN-SEI, YOU SHOULD SAY A FEW WORDS TO THE SENPAIS TOO...!

EMPTY..

EH?

ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING ALL THE GOOF NG OFF YOU DID

...BUT SERIOUSLY, IT'S ACTU-ALLY PRETTY AMAZING THAT YOU PASSED, RITSU-SENPAI.

YOU'RE SO HAPPY YOU'RE CRYING ABOUT IT!?

EVERY-ONE, CON-GRATULA-TIONS ON PASSING THE TEST!

EVEN THOUGH I HAVE NO IDEA HOW SHE GOT IN EITHER!

SOMEONE PLEASE JUST CONGRATU-LATE ME!!

DID SHE GET IN THROUGH SOME KIND OF BACKDOOR CHANNEL ...?

MY CHOCOLATE CUPCAKES...

MR. PRINCIPAL...
SHWP
す……

H...HI, EVERYONE.
ガラッ
SLIDE
TODAY'S MARCH 1ST— GRADUATION DAY FOR YUI-SENPAI AND THE OTHERS.
...EVEN ON GRADUATION DAY, I GUESS IT'S JUST BUSINESS (YEAH, RIGHT!) AS USUAL FOR THE POP MUSIC CLUB.
すっぽん
SHOOP
すっぽん
SHOOP
I'M ACTUALLY KINDA NERVOUS ABOUT IT...
スタ
TMP
スタ
TMP
THEY SAID TO COME TO THE CLUB-ROOM RIGHT AFTER THE GRADUATION CEREMONY... I WONDER WHY.
THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS ARE PRETTY

WHAT. DID. YOU. SAY!?

WELLLL... UMMM... SAWA-CHAN, I'LL THINK YOU'LL BE FINE WHEN THAT HAPPENS 'COS YOU ALREADY HAVE THE PRESENCE OF A THIRTY-YEAR-OLD.

BECAUSE WE'RE HAVING A TEA PARTY, OF COURSE! COME IN... PULL UP A CHAIR AND S.T DOWN.

..UM, SO THE WHOLE REASON YOU WANTED ME TO COME HERE IS BECAUSE.. ?

WEREN'T THERE ANY SENIORS IN THE POP MUSIC CLUB IN YOUR FIRST YEAR?

..IT'S ACTUALLY PRETTY AMAZING HOW WELL WE GOT BY ON OUR OWN THESE THREE YEARS, HUH?

GYAAAH!

I WISH WE COULD STAY IN HIGH SCHOOL FOR ANOTHER FIVE YEARS OR SO, DON'T YOU?

MAN...THESE THREE YEARS FLEW BY JUST LIKE THAT.

REALLY!? THAT'S SO COOL!

YOUR FACE DOESN'T LOOK TOO COOL... THOUGH

STRETCH

I WESCUED DA DYING POP OOSIC CWUB AND WEBUWT IT FWOM DA ASHES!

IN FIVE YEARS' TIME, I'LL BE TURNING THIRTY...

FIVE YEARS, HUH...

WE GOT DRAGGED INTO T ALL RIGHT ♡

DRAGGED US IN IS MORE LIKE IT, MUG! AND I WERE BOTH PLANNING ON JOINING OTHER CLUBS.

YEP! I GUESS YOU COULD SAY IT WAS MY CHARISMA THAT DREW THE OTHERS IN!

GO ON! SAY SOME-THING!

しーん....

SILENT

SO WHY'D YOU JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB, AZUSA-CHAN?

WRONG! YUI HERE JOINED OF HER OWN FREE WILL!

WHAT !?

SO... YOU WERE FORCED INTO JOINING TOO, YUI-SENPAI?

EH? WHAT WAS THAT—? YOU GOTTA SPEAK UP.

...IN A MOMENT OF WEAKNESS I SUCCUMBED TO THE RAW ENERGY OF THE NEW STUDENT WELCOME RECEPTION CONCERT

MUMBLE ...

HEH-HEH-HEH. THE CLUB ONLY GOT RECOGNIZED AS AN OFFICIAL CLUB ON ACCOUNT OF ME JOINING.

YU...YUI-SENPAI... I HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING. .

GWEGHHH~

B-BUT...I ONCE I ACTUALLY JOINED, IT WAS A TOTAL LET-DOWN BECAUSE THE CLUB PRESIDENT'S A COMPLETE FLAKE AND ALL YOU GUYS DO IS SIT AROUND EATING SNACKS!!

YOU GOT SUCKED IN BY THE SNACKS, DIDN'T YOU?

... AH, I SEE.

.....
.....

MUNCH

IT'S NOT VERY PERSUASIVE WHEN YOU SAY THAT WITH A TEACUP IN YOUR HAND.

MUNCH MUNCH

IF YOU HAD HALF A BRAIN, YOU'D REALIZE SHE'S MAKIN' FUN OF YOU.

THAT'S MY AZU-MEOW! YOU KNOW ME SO WELL! ♡

STOP, AZUSA! STOP!!

FAINT

YOU'RE A HABITUAL OVER-SLEEPER AND YOU'RE ALWAYS MIMICKING OTHER PEOPLE AND YOU ONLY CARE ABOUT SNACKS [illegible] YOU [illegible] AND [illegible]

IT'S TKO

HOP

HEY. HEY... WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF ME?

.....
.....

BUT...

...UM... THE BAD IMPRES-SION, I GUESS.

SHOULD I START WITH THE GOOD IMPRES-SION OR THE BAD IMPRES-SION?

.. AND YUI-SENPAI, I'VE BEEN SAVED COUNT-LESS TIMES BY YOUR CHEERFUL PERSONAL-ITY, AND. .

AZU-MEOW?

...BEING IN THIS BAND WITH YOU HAS BEEN SO MUCH FUN, AND...

ON TOP OF THAT, YOU COULDN'T EVEN READ MUSIC, YOU FOUND ANY EXCUSE TO GLOM ONTO ME WITH A CLINGY HUG, YOU GAVE ME THIS STUPID NICK-NAME...

YUI-SENPAI, I THOUGHT YOU WERE REALLY CARE-LESS AND SLOPPY. PLUS, YOU DIDN'T TAKE VERY GOOD CARE OF YOUR GUITAR. .I MEAN, YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THE BASICS OF HOW TO MAINTAIN IT.

. .JUST PLEASE DON'T GRADU-ATE. .

SOB

AND I DON'T CARE IF YOU FORGET ALL THE LYRICS, AND I DON'T CARE IF YOU HUG ME ALL THE TIME AND. I PROMISE I WON'T GET MAD ANYMORE, JUST .

SOB

NO... NO, THAT'S ENOUGH.

...SHOULD I GO ON? THERE'S MORE, BUT...

...RITSU-SENPAI'S RHYTHM WAS JUST AS CHAOTIC AS ALWAYS.

...THANK YOU, AZU-MEOW.

ギュ

HUG

BUT WHEN MIO-SENPAI JOINED IN, THE TWO OF THEM BUILT A SOLID GROOVE FOR THE SONG.

STO... STOP TREATING ME LIKE A LITTLE KID...

SNIFF

THERE, THERE .. THAT'S A GOOD GIR... NO NEED TO KEEP CRYING...

TAKEN INDIVIDUALLY, ALL FOUR OF THEM ARE ROUGH AND UNEVEN. BUT WHEN THEY COME TOGETHER, THEY BRING OUT THE BEST IN EACH OTHER AND PLAY LIKE A BAND. AND THEIR MUSIC...

WE WROTE A NEW SONG JUST FOR YOU, AZU-MEOW, AND WE WANTED YOU TO HEAR IT.

...THIS TIME IT WAS US WHO CALLED AZU-MEOW TO THE CLUB-ROOM, WASN'T IT, GIRLS?

...IT SOUNDED JUST AS BRILLIANT AS THE FIRST TIME I HEARD IT, WAY BACK AT THAT NEW STUDENT WELCOME RECEPTION CONCERT.

AND YOU AIN'T GONNA BE ABLE TO HEAR IT IF YOU SIT THERE BLUB-BERIN' LIKE A BABY!

WE MADE MORE PROGRESS ON THIS THAN WE DID ON STUDYING FOR THE EXAMS!

I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.

ALL RIGHT, I GUESS WE'D BETTER BE ON OUR WAY.

I WONDER WHAT THE NEW POP MUSIC CLUB'S GONNA BE LIKE... AZU-MEOW'S POP MUSIC CLUB!

C'MON, THIS AIN'T NO TIME TO BE CRYIN'! DON'T YOU GET IT, AZUSA? YOU'RE CLUB PRESIDENT NOW!

AZU-MEOW... YOU'RE A MUCH BIGGER CRYBABY THAN WE THOUGHT, HUH?

SO CUTE! ♡

WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN, AT THE STUDIO OR WHEREVER.

ぐすん SNIFF

SNIFFLE

SNIFFLE

ALL RIGHT, THEN. BUT LET'S GIVE A FINAL THANKS TO THIS ROOM. IT SAW US THROUGH THICK AND THIN.

ごちゃ STUFF EVERYWHERE

THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

I'M GONNA MAKE THE NEW POP MUSIC CLUB SO MUCH BETTER THAN THIS ONE—!

AND WE'RE DEFINITELY COMING TO SEE YOU PLAY AT THE NEXT SCHOOL FESTIVAL, OKAY!

OKAAAY~

NOW YOU GIRLS BE SURE AND TAKE ALL THIS CRAP HOME BEFORE THE NEW TERM STARTS, OKAY?

WHAT WAS THAT!!?

THAT WASN'T VERY NICE...

WE LEAVE SAWA-CHAN TO YOU. DO WITH HER WHAT YOU WILL.

I GUESS THAT MEANS ON PURPOSE.

Y-YOU GUYS ARE BOTH GONNA JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB ...!?

HNH-HNH-HNH.

AND I'M GONNA HAVE TONS OF FREE TIME NOW THAT MY SISTER'S MOVING OUT ON HER OWN.

WELL, I PROMISED I WOULD, DIDN'T I!? I'M A WOMAN WHO KEEPS HER PROMISES! I'M A GAL WHO GETS THINGS DONE!

JUN!? U!!? WH-WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING HERE!?

WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' IN HERE ALL BY YOURSELF? IT'S LATE.

1.3° SHAKE

1.3° SHAKE

JUST HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU SPEND TAKIN' CARE OF YOUR BIG SISTER, ANYWAY?

THE NORMAL AMOUNT

TWO SOME-ONES, IN FACT!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, WE FOUND SOME-ONE WHO WANTS TO JOIN THE POP MUSIC CLUB.

GYAAAH!!

I GOT MEM-BERS —!!

ARE YOU REALLY THAT STUPID, OR ARE YOU JUST DOIN' THAT ON PURPOSE?

REALLY!? WHERE? WHERE??

THAT'S RIGHT! WE'RE COLLEGE STU-DENTS NOW! WE'RE ADULTS!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE STANDING AROUND CRYING, MIO-CHAN!
WHAT DO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES DO, ANYWAY...? I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF ONE THING. RIGHT, MIO-CHAN?
I GUESS WE GRADUATED, DIDN'T WE...? I STILL DON'T FEEL ANY DIFFERENT.
AND MIO'S EMOTIONS ARE LIKE A ROLLER COASTER
YOU GUYS ARE SURE POSITIVE ABOUT THINGS.
PFF... PFF-PFF...
'COS WE'RE LOOK-ING FOR-WARD TO IT!!
AWW... THERE, THERE... YOU HELD OUT LIKE A BRAVE LITTLE GIRL, DIDN'CHA ...
SNIFF
- MIO-CHAN?

kakifly

COMMENTS

Hi, my name is kakifly Recently I started my own oyster farm. (Just kidding.) Thank you so much for buying my manga.

AFTERWORD

TRYING ON MAID OUTFITS BEFORE MIO'S SPECIAL TRAINING SESSION

HMMM

MIO, WHAT'S WRONG?

UHH, UM...N-NOTHING...

I'VE LEARNED SO MUCH ABOUT THE MANY DIFFICULTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES INVOLVED IN PRODUCING A MANGA SERIES, ABOUT THE JOY OF SEEING THE WORK I'VE DONE BEING COMPILED AND PRINTED IN BOUND VOLUMES, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, ABOUT RECEIVING REACTIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM MY READERS.

ALL THIS IS WHAT K-ON! HAS GIVEN ME OVER THE YEARS, EVER SINCE HOUBUNSHA PICKED UP THE TITLE AND BROUGHT IT INTO THEIR FOLD. AND NOW THAT I'VE SOMEHOW MANAGED TO COMPLETE THE SERIES — WHICH MIRACULOUSLY STAYED AFLOAT DESPITE ALL THE FALSE STARTS, BAD PLANNING, AND HAPHAZARD EXPERIMENTATION ON MY PART — WHAT I'M FEELING MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE RIGHT NOW IS RELIEF.

TH DOESN'T FIT ANY

I FEAR THAT THE FLAWS AND MISSTEPS OF THIS SERIES HAVE PROBABLY STOOD OUT MORE THAN ANY MEAGER VIRTUES IT MAY POSSESS, BUT IF ANY OF YOU ARE ACTUALLY GLAD IN SOME SMALL WAY THAT YOU READ IT, I CAN TELL YOU THERE'S NO GREATER JOY FOR ME THAN KNOWING THAT.

K-ON! HAS ONLY MADE IT THIS FAR BECAUSE OF THE SUPPORT OF ALL COUNTLESS NUMBERS OF PEOPLE, AND I'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS T OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY HEARTFELT GRATITUDE TO ALL OF I THEM. TRULY, THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH.

WELL, I GUESS YOU ARE AT THAT AGE. DON'T WORRY— IT'S NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT.

— KAKIFLY

ALL I MADE THOSE OUTFITS OVER A YEAR AGO

FIT ANYMORE EITHER!

HAPPY TO FIX 'EM FOR YOU. JUST TELL ME WHERE EXACTLY THEY'RE NOT FITTING RIGHT.

UM... WELL... THE WAIST FEELS A LITTLE TIGHT...

IN MY CASE IT'S THE CHEST.

MIO-CHAN?

BONUS COMICS

IT'S AZUSA!! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SHE'S SHOWING UP HERE BECAUSE SHE'S BEEN OUT ON A JOURNEY IN SEARCH OF TAKUAN SLICES!!
RITSU
MUGI-SENPAI! I FOUND SOME NEW TAKUAN PICKLES FOR YOU!!
TOSS

central region of the main island of Honshu). There's also a homonym pun in the song ("1, 2, 3, 4, GO-HAN!", where the prefix "*go–*" of "*gohan*" ("rice") doubles as the number 5, also "*go*") and a line in the Kansai dialect (*Donai ya nen*, which literally means "What's the deal?" but here is just used to give a nod to the region).

PAGE 30

Band T-shirts

The T-shirts that Sawako made for the girls' concert have English lettering on them, but the words are Japanese. "Ho-KaGo TeaTime" is the Japanese name for the girls' band—Afterschool (*hokago*) Tea Time—and "Saku-ra-Ko K-ON-BU" is short for Sakuragaoka High School (*koko*) Pop Music Club (*ker-on-gaku-bu*).

PAGE 35

Indoor Shoes

Japanese students are required to remove their outdoor shoes and wear indoor slippers while they're inside the school building. This follows the general Japanese cultural practice of not wearing outdoor shoes indoors (and requiring special shoes for "dirty" places like the bathroom) in order not to introduce filth into the home space.

PAGE 38

Studying for Entrance Exams

Most high school students in Japan devote their entire senior year to preparation for standardized college entrance exams. Doing well on these exams is a vital component of acceptance to a good school, so schools and parents put a lot of pressure on pre-test college-bound students to study intensively and avoid distractions

PAGE 40

The Center Test

This is short for *Daigaku Nyushi Sentaa Shiken* (University Admissions Center Test), so named because it's administered by the National Center for University Entrance Examinations. It's a national standardized test that most universities in Japan rely on for making admissions decisions. Some universities also administer their own separate exams in addition to the Center Test, but since Yui and Ritsu haven't decided on a particular college yet, Sawako suggests that they just focus on doing well on the Center Test (which they will almost certainly need) until they make a decision.

PAGE 40

Six-Sided Pencil

Ritsu is referring to an old (and idiotic) approach to multiple-choice tests: Write the numbers or letters of the possible choices on each face of the pencil, and then roll the pencil like a die, choosing the number or letter on the face that turns up.

PAGE 42

Admission Recommendation

Some Japanese universities allow a certain number of students to be admitted by recommendation of their high school (often paired with a "recommendation test" that usually amounts to little more than a simple interview). This path to admission is much easier than trying to get admitted through the general written admissions test, but the student needs to be a favorite of the high school faculty to get such a recommendation and also needs to commit to enrolling in the school to which the recommendation is directed.

PAGE 45

Cleaning Duty

In Japan it's common for students to perform many of the classroom duties (often on a rotating basis) that would normally be handled by the school faculty or staff in the US, such as taking roll and cleaning the classroom.

PAGE 58

Sneezing

There's a Japanese folk superstition that says you can get rid of a cold by giving it to someone else.

PAGE 61

Chance of Passing the Real Exam

The grades the girls get are not an absolute measure. The mock entrance examinations they're taking evaluate their performance *relative to other applicants* applying for the

TRANSLATION NOTES

COMMON HONORIFICS

no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

***-san*:** The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.

***-sama*:** Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee

***-kun*:** Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

***-chan*:** An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

***-senpai*:** Used to address upperclassmen or more experienced coworkers

***-sensei*:** A respectful term for teachers, artists, or high-level professionals.

K-ON!

The title *K-ON!* comes from the Japanese word *"kei-ongaku,"* meaning "light music" in the sense of casual or easy listening (i.e., not serious or innovative as in serious classical or jazz). In the context of school clubs in Japan, the term *"kei-ongaku-bu"* ("light music club") usually contrasts with *"ongaku-bu"* ("music club") in that it focuses on popular forms of music (pop, rock, folk, etc.) where the latter focuses on symphonic and choral forms

kakifly

The author's name, "kakifly," comes from the Japanese word *"kaki-furai,"* meaning "fried oysters." It seems to be a running joke, as the author comments for this and future volumes reference his feelings toward oysters.

Yen Conversion

A general rule of thumb to use for converting Japanese yen to American dollars is ¥100 to 1 USD

PAGE 4

JYAGUCHI T-shirt

Jyaguchi (normally romanized as *"jaguchi"*) means "faucet" (and sure enough, sports a picture of a dripping faucet). I believe it's making fun of Mari Yaguchi (of Morning Musume fame) goods, of which there are plenty

Math, Level B

The "Level B" in this case means that it's a secondary-topics math textbook for second-year students. The typical mathematics curriculum in Japan is split into two broad groups of topics. The primary group is split into levels 1, 2, and 3 and includes analytic geometry and calculus, while the secondary group is divided into levels A, B, and C and presents topics in formal geometry, algebra, probability, statistics, and computer science. As this is a second-year textbook, third-year Yui should be familiar with the topics. (But she isn't, of course, because she's not a very good student.)

PAGE 9

Japanese School Terms

The Japanese school year is divided into three terms: the first starts in early April and ends in mid-July; the second begins in late August or early September and ends in late December; the third begins in early January and ends in late March.

PAGE 10

Yui and Ritsu

In Japanese, the silly song titles that Yui and Ritsu suggest are *"Doki-Doki Bundoki"* (literally, "Heart-pounding Protractor") and *"Kaban no Bakaan"* (a play on the fact that kaban "bag" in reverse syllable order sounds like bakan "bang").

PAGE 12

"Rice is the Dish"

Yui's "Rice is The Dish" (*"Gohan wa Okazu"* in Japanese) lyrics contain references to *ramen* (savory broth with vegetables, meat, and Chinese-style noodles), *udon* (similar to ramen, but with fatter noodles, simpler broth and less accompaniment), *okonomiyaki* (a kind of hearty pancake filled with meat and vegetables, and topped with mayonnaise and sweet Worcestershire-based BBQ sauce along with dried seaweed and fish flakes), as well as the region of Kansai (a western/south-

the PlayStation 2. You can tell because one of the characters, Junpei Iori, always shouts "Ta da da da!" (*"terettette"* in the original Japanese version of the game) when leveling up. Because of this, Junpei has the nickname "Terette" among Japanese fans.

PAGE 89
Cram School
A cram school (*yobiko* in Japanese) is a paid tutoring course set up like a classroom but specifically targeting students preparing for entrance exams.

PAGE 92
Kagami Mochi
A traditional decorative New Year's dish, *kagami mochi* (literally "mirrored sweet-rice-cake") is made by stacking two *mochi* (rice cakes) one on top of the other and adorning the stack with an orange (and possibly additional garnishes). It's generally left up as a decoration for a couple of weeks, after which there is a small ceremony where the *mochi* is broken apart and eaten by the family.

PAGE 92
New Year's Soba
New Year's *soba* (*toshikoshi soba*, literally "year-spanning soba") is a simple noodle dish eaten on New Year's Eve. The long *soba* (buckwheat) noodles represent long life, and according to tradition, everyone has to finish their noodles completely by the time the new year rolls around.

PAGE 97
Good Luck Charms
Known as *omamori* in Japanese, there are various kinds of Shinto-themed amulets available in Japan for wishing success in all kinds of endeavors, from school to love. It's unusual (and endearing) that Ui made her own instead of buying them at a local shrine

PAGE 111
Cherry Blossoms
Early spring is the time when flowering cherry trees bloom. The ephemeral beauty of the bright pink cherry blossoms and their association with the new growth of spring — and (when they begin to fall from the trees) with the fact that all glory eventually fades — has been a prominent and enduring theme in Japanese artistic sensibility for at least as long as Japan's written tradition (about 1500 years).

same programs at the same schools. Their scores are assigned an overall percentile (expressed as a letter grade "A" through "E," where "E" is essentially zero percent) reflecting how likely those scores would earn them acceptance to a specific program given the current state of competition.

Viewer Ratings
This might be a humorous nod to the *K-ON!* anime series. Viewer ratings in Japan are similar to Nielsen ratings in the US, listing what percentage of a sample of households was tuned in to a particular show. 20% would be a staggeringly high proportion.

PAGE 64
Heated Table
The "heated table" (*kotatsu*) is a typical piece of furniture in Japanese sitting rooms. It's a small coffee table with a space heater mounted to the underside and quilted material draped around the sides to trap the heat in the space underneath.

PAGE 65
Momotaro
Nodoka is reading the tale of Momotaro (The Peach Boy), a very famous children's story in Japan. It's about a boy who was found inside a peach. An elderly childless couple discovered the peach in a river and split it open to eat it, at which point Momotaro emerged. They take it as a sign from heaven and raise him as their own. Later he grows up and goes off heroically to fight demons with a number of talking animal friends.

PAGE 67
Humble Language
The distinction between honorific, neutral, and humble forms of speech is built right into Japanese grammar (meaning that every time you speak to someone, you're forced to make an overt assertion about your social status compared to them), and was even more pronounced in older forms of Japanese. Mio and Ritsu are studying classical Japanese, where frequently the identities of speakers and addressees are not explicitly given in dialogue but can be inferred by the relative usage of honorific language. The subject is difficult even for modern Japanese speakers, because the modern language has diverged considerably from the classical one. (Sort of akin to modern English speakers' difficulty understanding Chaucer, or even worse, Alfred the Great.)

PAGE 68
Annual New Year's Sing-Off
This is a famous singing competition on Japanese TV called the *Kohaku Uta Gassen* (Red-White Song Battle). It's shown every year on New Year's Eve and receives almost universal viewership in Japan (much like the live New Year's countdown show hosted in Times Square in New York City that is watched by a large number of US households).

Pop-a-Point Pencil
The pop-a-point pencil (*roketto enpitsu* or "rocket pencil" in Japanese) is an old pencil fad. It was basically a stack of several plastic mini-pencil segments that fit together in a tube. When the lead got dull in front, you just popped that segment out and stuck it onto the back of the stack, which pushed the next sharp segment out.

PAGE 70
Castle
The mark Mio drew on Ritsu's forehead is a Chinese character that means "jut out" (and is also the spelling of the "*deko–*" part in the Japanese word "*dekoboko*" — "bumpy"), but here it's being used as a funny way to write the "*deko*" which is slang for "forehead," or for someone with a high, prominent forehead like Ritsu's. What Yui finds funny is that it also resembles the symbol for castle sites on Japanese maps.

PAGE 76
–dono
The suffix "*–dono*" (literally "lord") is an uncommon honorific form that's historically more formal and deferential than "*–sama*" but now is mostly used for humorous effect.

PAGE 88
Ritsu's RPG
Ritsu is playing *Shin Megami Tensei: Persona 3*, a high-school-themed RPG released for

BANDAI
entertainment®
www.bandai-ent.com

DVD AND BLU-RAY NOW ON SALE!

Purchase at Bandai Store
http://store.bandai-ent.com/

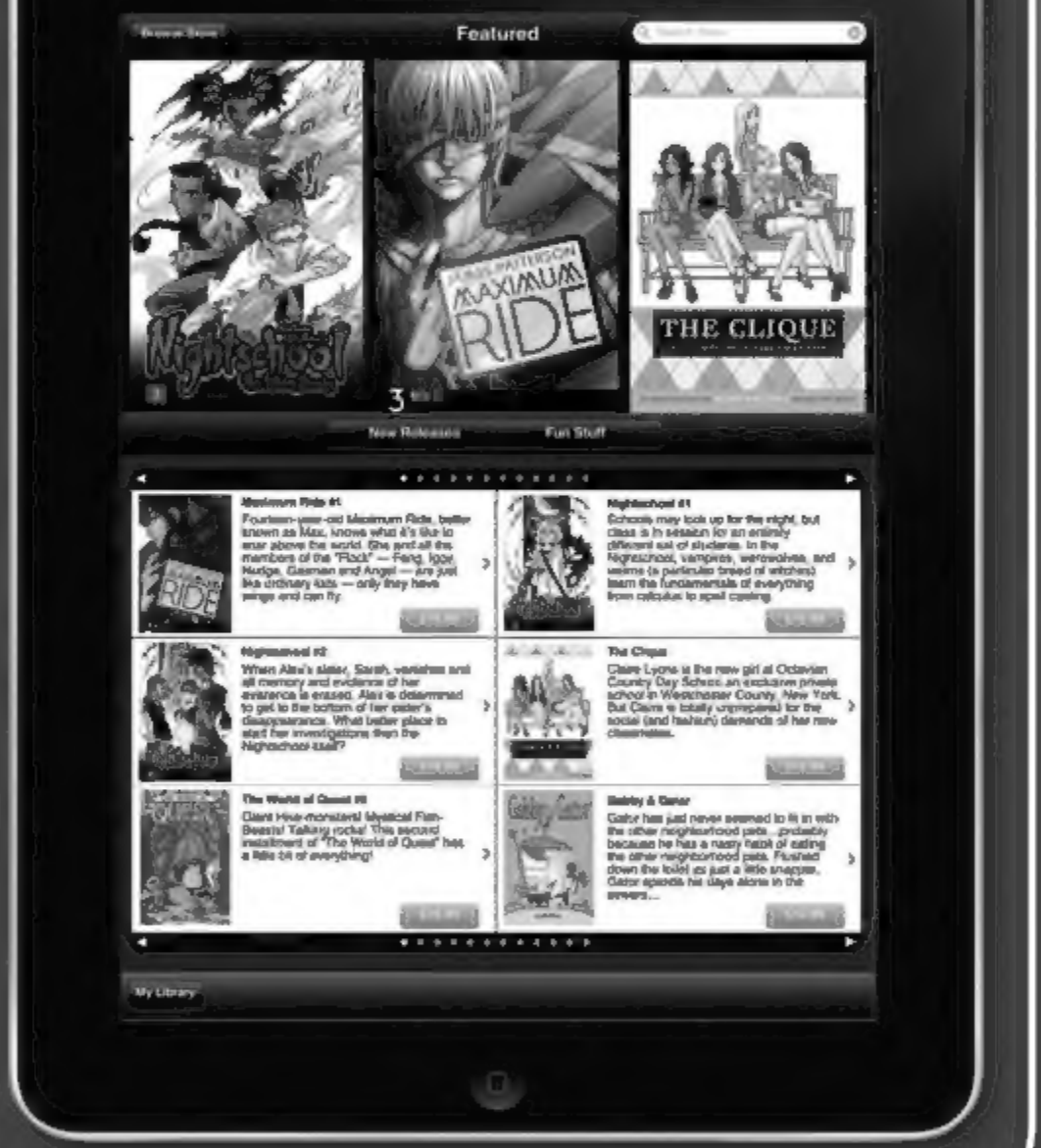
For K-ON! news and updates
http://www.k-on.bandai-ent.com/

TBS animation
Blu-ray Disc
DVD VIDEO

K-ON!

©kakifly・Houbunsha/Sakura High Band

WANT TO READ MANGA ON YOUR IPAD?



Now for iPhone too!

Download the *YEN PRESS* app for full volumes of some of our bestselling titles!

Nightschool © Svetlana Chmakova

K-ON! ④

KAKIFLY

Translation: Jack Wiedrick

Lettering: Hope Donovan

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

K-ON! vol. 4 © 2010 Kakifly. All rights reserved. First published in Japan in 2010 by HOUBUNSHA CO., LTD., Tokyo. English translation rights in United States, Canada, and United Kingdom arranged with HOUBUNSHA CO., LTD through Tuttle-Mori Agency, Inc., Tokyo.

Translation © 2011 by Hachette Book Group, Inc.

Application Copyright ©2010 by Hachette Book Group, Inc.

All rights reserved. In accordance with the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, the scanning, uploading, and electronic sharing of any part of this book without the permission of the publisher is unlawful piracy and theft of the author's intellectual property. If you would like to use material from the book (other than for review purposes), prior written permission must be obtained by contacting the publisher at permissions@hbgusa.com. Thank you for your support of the author's rights.

Yen Press
Hachette Book Group
237 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017

www.HachetteBookGroup.com
www.YenPress.com

Yen Press is an imprint of Hachette Book Group, Inc. The Yen Press name and logo are trademarks of Hachette Book Group, Inc.

The publisher is not responsible for websites (or their content) that are not owned by the publisher.

First Yen Press ebook Edition: February 2014

ebook ISBN: 978-0-316-40982-7

App ISBN: 978-0-316-40986-5